FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN PARIS FOR SHORT VISIT

FL222341 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has arrived in Paris for a short visit during which he will meet with his French counterpart Jean-Bernard Raimond.

Malmierca had previously visited Algeria, Iran, Iraq, the DPRK, and Poland. Shortly before leaving for Paris, Malmierca stated in Warsaw that his stay in Poland was satisfactory. He said his talks with Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski and other high-level officials confirmed their agreement on major world issues. Among them, he cited the Soviet and Polish peace, disarmament, and international safety proposals.

Confirms Support to Namibia

FL232117 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2009 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] During a more than 1-hour-long meeting with his French counterpart Jean-Bernard Raimond, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca confirmed our country's support to the struggle for Namibia's independence and its stand against the South African racist regime.

The Cuban and French foreign ministers reviewed bilateral relations, the situation in southern Africa and Central America, and the Iran-Iraq conflict. The subjects discussed by Malmierca and Raimond will also be examined during the French-Cuban joint meeting on culture, science, and technology scheduled for today and tomorrow in Paris.

The Cuban foreign minister, who arrived in Paris last night on an official visit after a 1-month-long tour through Algiers, Tehran, Baghdad, Pyongyang, and Warsaw, will return to our country tomorrow.

Reasserts Support for Region

FL231737 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1710 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca and French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond today analyzed in Paris the situation in Central America, South Africa, the Middle East, and bilateral relations. In statements to the news media Malmierca said they asserted their mutual decision to seek political solutions that may improve the international situation.

Malmierca said: We positively reviewed bilateral affairs and also agreed on the need to increase and strengthen our mutual links in many sectors. Malmierca also said it is necessary to continue supporting the efforts exerted by the Contadora and Support Group to find a negotiated, permanent, and just solution to the Central American situation -- which is advocated by France.

The foreign minister reasserted Cuba's active solidarity with Nicaragua and said: We do not hide our relations and cooperation in every sector with the Nicaraguan Government, people, and revolution. Malmierca added that Cuba offers its moral and political solidarity to all those who struggle for their national independence anywhere in the world.

MEXICAN PAPER PUBLISHES ARTICLE BY RODRIGUEZ

FL232346 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] The Mexican newspaper EL DIA published today on its front page an article written by Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez titled "Latin America Gets Ahead With its Poor or Does Not Get Ahead at All." Rodriguez, who is also a member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo, summarizes the situation in Latin America in the last 25 years. He also discusses the confrontation with the United States, the Central American problem, Contadora, and the foreign debt issue.

CASTRO DIAZ-BALART VISITS CZECHOSLOVAKIA

For Prague media coverage of the visit to Czechoslovakia by Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart, executive secretary of the Cuban Commission on Nuclear Engery, including his meeting with Milos Jakes, member of the Presidium and secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee, see the Czechoslovakia section of the 22 June East Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

RISQUET, HART WELCOME NIGERIAN YORUBA KING

FL221700 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1340 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Nigeria's King of the Yorubas, (Okunade Sihoowade Olowuse) II, has arrived in our country at the invitation of the Cuban Institute for Friendship With Peoples. Jorge Risquet Valdes and Armando Hart, both members of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo, were at the airport to welcome the visitor. (Olowuse) II, king of Ife, came to the throne in 1980 and rules over 20 million Yorubas living in Nigeria. The king will have an extensive schedule, which includes visits to historic sites and other places of interest.

Joint Enterprises Requested

FL232246 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2002 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] His Excellency (Okunade Sihoowade Olowuse), second Yoruba supreme king of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, has visited the Foreign Trade Ministry and the State Committee for Economic Cooperation. During his visit, the Nigerian Yoruba king asked Cuban officials to make an effort in responding to his country's requests. He expressed interest in the creation of joint enterprises and in Cuban export goods. The king noted the importance the creation of joint enterprises with Cuba has for his country, especially those related to social and engineering projects.

He said members of his delegation will hold talks with UNECA [Union of Caribbean Construction Enterprises] specialists to discuss future working relations and added that Cuban construction workers should have gone to Nigeria 20 years ago because there is a lot to be done there in that area.

CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR VIEWED

PA191834 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Jun 87

["Note" feature read by Amalia Sanmartino]

[Text] President Jose Napoleon Duarte has just started his 4th year in power, and despite the fact approximately 12 months ago he announced with much fanfare the starting of a new economic plan designed to resolve the people's problems, everything seems to indicate nothing has been resolved yet.

It has just been announced that 55,000 Salvadoran public workers have started joint actions to assert their claims, and will join Agriculture Ministry workers who are also demanding salary increases, the end of repression, and other demands.

Nearly everyone agrees the only thing President Duarte has been able to continue all these years is his oratorical ability, which -- although he is not as optimistic as at the beginning of his term -- he continues with the intention of political maneuvering.

The coming of the new year of Christian Democracy in El Salvador occurs right in the middle of new and successful guerrilla campaigns, which the president tries to overlook, and places him at a disadvantage, especially because of the generalized peace demands from all sectors. Duarte has called his government a democratic revolution, an adjective that sounds ridiculous in a country where war has increased and the economic crisis has worsened as a result of the government's stubbornness in carrying out war actions and its disregard for all insurgent proposals to end the conflict.

Now that these public workers new demands have been announced, it is worth recalling that during all of May, hundreds of members of the powerful Salvadoran Workers Union struck, and various demonstrations took place to demand the president's resignation.

As well known as the guerrillas' success is the fact the regime is kept in power thanks to U.S. aid, and the regime expects it will increase because the U.S. Congress has already approved it. One should then ask what would this democratic revolution be like if these dollars, which until now have only served to prolong the war, did not exist.

'BESTIAL' NATURE OF CHILE REGIME DISCUSSED

PA232309 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Jun 87

["Our America" commentary read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] The repressive image of the fascist dictatorship headed by Augusto Pinochet became evident once again with the recent massacre of 12 militants of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front, an opposition organization, in Santiago, Chile. In fact, on 15 and 16 June, agents from the National Investigations Centers [Central Nacional de Investigaciones] brutally killed 12 members of the front in what has been described as a premeditated crime committed in cold blood, because some of the militants were completely unarmed. The official report, of course, does not agree with the charges. There is an attempt to hide the crime behind the screen of alleged armed confrontations, in which it is interesting to note not a single member of the repressive force suffered even minor injuries.

Undoubtedly, such an action is part of the selective repression being carried out by the Pinochet regime. This repression is part of the counterinsurgency courses the CIA and Pentagon advisers are giving the Latin American armies.

Naturally, the fact opposition members are hunted down carefully does not imply that -- in the event it is deemed necessary -- the Chilean Army will take to the streets or be used to carry out raids in slum areas, particularly. The deployment of military men in full combat gear with painted faces is well known as if these were operations against an invading army.

It was disclosed recently from documents belonging to the dictatorship that the military men have created a single command for the repressive activities led by Major General Osvaldo Hernandez Peredo, whose actions are directed on two fronts: the internal and external fronts. Therefore, the country has been divided into six operational zones, and there are 137,000 troops involved in checking home by home, attacking demonstrations, and selective repression. This force includes 50,000 infantry soldiers, 34,000 from the Air Force, and 30,000 from the Military Police.

As for the external actions, the plan calls for the elimination of individuals who are considered dangerous and who seek refuge in exile. This is what supported the brutal attempts that took the lives of Orlando Letelier in Washington and General Carlos Prats in Buenos Aires.

The action that led to the murder of the 12 militants of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front confirms the existence of this organization, which seeks to physically eliminate opposition members and increase terror as the means to halt the growing rejection by the people, the bishops, the leftist and center rightists coalitions, the Communist and Christian Democratic Parties, and the organizations for the defense of human rights, all of which doubt the government's report about alleged confrontations. In fact, Pinochet has confirmed the bestial nature of his regime and his most absolute disdain for the democracy he claims he is defending.

HAITIAN POLITICAL LEADER CONDEMNS MILITARY ACTIONS

FL231419 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1319 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Monitored in progress]

[Text] ...activities despite the publication of a communique issued by the Port-au-Prince chief of police calling on the population to devote itself to its activities.

Since yesterday, Haitian Armed Forces patrols took to the streets and took over the trade union office where several leaders were detained and the furniture was stolen.

Sylvio Claude, leader of the Haitian Christian Democrat Party, who was against the strike, reacted strongly and condemned the actions of the military forces, which he feels are a bad omen.

The CATH [Autonomous Central of Haitian Workers office, remains under army supervision and military vehicles continue patrolling the city.

Machinegun fire has been heard in the streets where the trade union offices are located. However, no victims have been reported.

This situation was mentioned earlier this morning by comrade Roberto Agudo during his "Via Satellite" report on the situation in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, resulting from the general strike declared by the CATH.

COMMENTARY ACCUSES U.S. OF DEVELOPING AIDS VIRUS

PA200342 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jun 87

["Viewpoint" commentary read by Angel Hernandez]

[Text] The scenes of supersecret laboratories working on the destruction of the human race, which are typical of terror or science-fiction movies, seem to take on the appearance of reality in the United States as a result of the warmongering policy promoted by that country's powerful circles.

Recently, the Brazilian weekly VEJA published revelations by Italian scientist (Bruneto Sciarelli) to the effect that research is being conducted in the (York Regional Genetic Center) in Atlanta, Georgia, to create humanoids in test tubes with human semen and chimpanzee ova. The Italian anthropologist said that U.S. scientist (Hugh Young) is in charge of this work and that the project is highly viable. According to the interviewed scientist, the monsters resulting from his mix can serve in chemical compound experiments, to obtain organs for transplants, or to perform menial work. In addition, the likelihood that these humanoids may be used to form armies to attack other nations should not be ruled out.

Without a doubt, monstrosity is more than present in these projects, which clash with every ethical principle and are the work of sick minds. (Sciarelli's) assertions are consistent, in the realm of dehumanization and warmongering, with growing revelations about the possibility that AIDS, the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, originated in U.S. biological warfare laboratories. British doctor (John Sale) has said AIDS is a human creation. His assertion is substantiated by the establishment, in 1977, of a secret laboratory in Fort Detrick, near New York [as heard], where experiments were conducted with green African monkeys which carry a virus like the one that causes the so-called plague of the 20th century.

Eight years before, the U.S. House of Representatives had analyzed a request from the Pentagon to create a virus capable of overcoming the human body's immunological capabilities through genetic engineering. The first AIDS case appeared in New York in 1981. The sufferer died a year later from innumerable infections.

Another theory that claims AIDS originated in U.S. laboratories is that of Dr (Manuel Servin) of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. (Servin) says that research conducted in Colombia [not further identified] by the U.S. Army was the starting point of the deadly disease. He asserts that an unexplained accident caused the virus to spread and an employee of Haitian origin became one of its first victims. In his opinion, biological warfare is a weapon Washington likes and uses in Latin America against Cuba, Nicaragua, and the Salvadoran insurgents.

The truth is that, even though the Reagan administration cut the funds for biological research for civilian use by 35 percent, it increase the funds for the development of chemical-bacteriological weapons by 65 percent, which points to a penchant for experiments and tests with viruses that has the earmarks of an aberration.

These attitudes lead one to think that there may be a great deal of truth in claims by persons who point to Washington as the originator of illnesses and biological projects that have or may have a dangerous impact on human life.

FIDAL, RAUL CASTRO ATTEND MININT MEETING

FS231254 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz has presided over a working meeting of the Interior Ministry [MININT]. Army General Raul Castro Ruz also participated in the meeting.

The meeting was dedicated to analyzing the progress of the principal tasks of the MININT and the fulfillment of the guidelines that were presented in January of this year at the meeting with comrades Fidel and Raul.

During the meeting, the commander in chief made several statements that clarified and deepened essential aspects of the current tasks and role of the MININT during the present stage of the revolution.

The commander in chief gave the closing statements at the meeting, which was also attended by members of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo and Secretariat, ministers and chiefs of organizations, and leaders of other Cuban organizations and institutions.

Police Activities Analyzed

FL231952 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] A work meeting of the MININT has been held under the presidency of commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz and with the participation of Army General Raul Castro. The meeting was held to analyze the progress of the MININT's main tasks and the fulfillment of the guidelines which were outlined during the meeting held with Comrades Fidel and Raul in January.

Interior Minister Division General Jose Abrahantes acted as moderator during the discussion of representatives from various MININT organizations and directorates to develop a report on the work carried out in recent months. Special attention was given to the work carried out by the National Revolutionary Police [PNR] and a decrease in some of the most common criminal acts was evident in Havana and other provinces throughout the country.

Likewise, it was emphasized that all must continue the struggle to abolish crime, eliminate the causes and conditions which favor crimes, and step up surveillance and other measures to effectively combat anti-social behaviors that annoy our population so much. Our commander in chief participated in the discussions many times and his statements clarified and underscored essential aspects of the tasks ahead, and the MINIT's role in the revolution's current phase.

Comrade Fidel said the prisons' production of goods which are heavily used by the population has attained good results and fully confirms that the people's needs can be met satisfactorily and efficiently; he added the quality and variety of the products can be increased. He said this program is being satisfactorily carried out despite the tense economic situation and the problems created by the lack of raw materials and other products.

CRITICAL WATER SHORTAGE AFFECTS RICE PRODUCTION

FL231510 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] The water stored in dams and used for rice crops has been considerably depleted this year. The usable volume, which cannot be totally consumed, is only 22 percent of its total capacity. Never has such a critical situation been recorded in water resources and if the rainfall does not become normal, very negative repercussions will be reflected in the production of rice.

Severe Drought Analyzed

FL232116 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Ministry of Agriculture is working in earnest given our extremely adverse climate. For example, a spring sowing program is currently underway; it began in March and will conclude in August. The land sowed last month with edible roots, vegetables, and corn surpassed that sowed in any othe period in the history of Cuban agriculture. More than 8,800 caballerias have been sowed with sweet potato, yautia, cassava, tomato, corn, pepper, squash, cucumber, and other vegetables.

This means the program to sow 11,000 caballerias with these products will be surpassed when the campaign concludes in 2 months. However, this effort does not guarantee an abundant harvest. We said earlier the climate has been severely adverse -- the worst in many years. An example of this is that we are in the second half of June and spring has yet to arrive in any territory of our country. Consequently, many of the sowed areas have suffered the consequences of a severe drought and the production will be lower than the estimates. This is not an idle excuse, and the people are fully aware of this.

Our water sources on the surface are still at a critical level from Pinar del Rio to Granma Provinces. Likewise, the water table continues to decrease at an alarming rate. In short, the situation is already worrisome -- particularly for Havana, Matanzas, and Ciego de Avila Provinces. The Agriculture Ministry continues to insist on the need to surpass the sowing plans -- above all concerning sweet potatoes, corn, and seasonal vegetables -- to compensate the loss of other products which cannot be recovered at this point.

Anyway, the harvest will never be smaller than the one we had last year despite the problems. We recently said the work carried out in this sector will be noticeable late this year. We want now to reassert this: We believe that Cuban agriculture is facing a decisive moment, adopting revolutionary measures, and will win the battle despite the obstacles.

HYDRAULIC WORKS UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN MOA

FL231640 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1405 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Efforts are being exerted in Moa Municipality for the construction of the Nuevo Mundo Dam, which will have a capacity for 141 million cubic meters of water and is part of a large-scale hydraulic network.

The dam will store water in a topographic depression that measures 9 square km and is located in the Mayari-Sagua-Baracoa mountain range. The work is being carried out under Soviet supervision and will cost more than 13 million pesos; this is the only dam of its type in Cuba.

The main work is being carried out by a specialized 106-worker brigade of the MICONS [Ministry of Construction] and basically includes waterproofing the axis of the pyramid-shaped 75-meter-high retaining wall. The Moa hydraulic project also includes a water-treatment plant which was completed some months ago and has a small dam to store 2 million cubic meters.

LABOR MEETING ANALYZES MISTAKES, SOLUTIONS

FL221905 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Roberto Veiga, secretary general of the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] and member of the party politburo, attended the closure of the plenary meeting on labor organization which was held in Havana. Veiga asserted that the labor movement must solve problems and not only report them.

Members of the CTC national and province secretariats, labor unions, and labor bureaus discussed organization, salary, and labor discipline problems as part of the process to rectify mistakes. The excess of technical personnel in an organization, control of medical orders for sick leave, and overproduction due to poor quality were some of the problems discussed at the CTC plenary meeting.

AUTOMATED AIRLINE RESERVATIONS SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

FL221516 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1402 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] The introduction of an automated ticket printer late in 1989 is part of the plans to improve airport activities in Cuba. The time needed for international reservations will be shortened because approximately 30 tickets are obtained in 1 minute and the confirmation of the reservations will improve to 5-6 seconds. The latter will be possible in December, according to engineer Reinaldo Ramos Sanchez, chief of the group in charge of implementing the Cuban automated reservations system, which will allow us to reserve seats on any airline of the world.

The Cuban program of airport activities foresees the installation of other equipment in the next few years at the main airports in the capital, Varadero Beach, Camaguey, Santiago de Cuba and at the Palace of Conventions in Havana.

BARBADOS

ELECTION FOR BARROW'S SEAT SET FOR 16 JUL

FL231510 Bridgetown CANA in English 1958 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 22, CANA -- The Barbados Government today announced a July 15 by-election for the St. John Parish, which late Prime Minister Errol Barrow had represented in parliament for more than 25 years. Nomination day is July 1.

Barrow's Democratic Labour Party (DLP) -- has named 26 year-old layer David Thompson as its representative for the poll, with the main opposition Barbados Labour Party (BLP) being represented by another lawyer, Hutson Linton. Barrow, who died June 1, represented St. John in parliament from 1958.

GRENADA

THREE UNIONS SEND NEW PROPOSAL TO CABINET

FL221838 Bridgetown CANA in English 2212 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] St George's, Grenada, June 21, CANA -- Grenada's Public Utilities Minister Dr Keith Mitchell is due to take to cabinet tomorrow the latest set of proposals by three public sector unions to solve a long-standing salaries dispute. Mitchell heads the four-member government team engaged in salary negotiations with the Grenada Union of Teachers, the Public Workers Union, and the Technical and Allied Workers Union.

According to a release from the unions they have asked Mitchell to take two points on which they have failed to reach agreement to cabinet for consideration. The release did not name the unresolved matters but said that mutual agreement was reached with government on most areas in the negotiations.

Informed sources have said when talks ended last Wednesday the government had rejected demands from the unions for employees earning between 1,140 and 1,800 dollars (one EC dollar -- 37 cents U.S.) to be given a three per cent increase for 1985 and a five per cent hike in 1986.

The government's position was that workers earning more than 1,200 dollars be allowed a five per cent increase in 1985 and nothing for 1985.

Government Urges Settlement

FL231753 Bridgetown CANA in English 1538 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] St George's, Grenada, June 23, CANA -- The Grenada Government last night called on three public sector unions to accept its latest offer and close protracted negotiations over salary increases for 1985 and 1986.

According to a government statement issued after a cabinet meeting, significant progress had been made in the negotiations and a final agreement should be arrived at shortly.

"...government is calling on the unions to act responsibly, recognize the government's good faith in the matter, and accept the current offer as the best that can be made in the present circumstances," the statement said.

"Government would have no objection to the unions rearranging the package increase per category as long as the total pay package does not exceed government's latest offer, which would amount to approximately EC4.5 million dollars," it added.

The unions involved in the negotiations on behalf of Grenada's estimated 7,000 civil servants are the Public Workers Union (PWU), the Grenada Union of Teachers (GUT), and the Technical and Allied Workers Union (TAWU).

The government statement said that agreement has already been reached in the discussions of a five percent across the board increase for civil servants for 1986. But it said the two sides differ on "the spread of tax relief for 1985."

The statement said the unions have agreed to a government proposal for workers earning less than 3,504 dollars annually to receive a 15 percent increase. Additionally, workers getting between 3,505 and 7,345 dollars would be in line for a five percent increase.

"These increases coupled with the five percent increase for 1986 would give a total increase of 20 percent and 10 percent respectively for the lower income group," it said.

"Government's view is that those who receive between 7,345 to 12,500 dollars should receive in addition to the 5 percent across the board a 2 percent increase, while those above 12,500 dollars will not receive an increase to the 5 percent across the board," it added.

The statement said the unions are asking for a 3 percent increase for workers earning between 7,345 to 12,500 dollars and 2 percent for those above 12,500 dollars. It went on: "The government's offer for 1985 is based on the fact that the increase proposed for those in the lower income bracket is a relief for that group of officers who did not benefit as much by the tax relief measures introduced in 1985. The higher income group has already benefitted significantly from these tax measures," it added.

In 1985 goverment abolished income tax and a number of other indirect taxes while introducing a controversial 20 percent Value Added Tax (VAT).

HAITI

STRIKE PARALYZES PORT-AU-PRINCE; LEADERS ARRESTED

FL231155 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] A 48-hour general strike has paralyzed Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Soldiers arrested up to six labor activists on charges of subversion. The strike called by the Autonomous Central of Haitian Workers halted most commerce in the capital with only police and army vehicles forming the only motorized traffic.

Officers and businesses have closed but pedestrians crowded into the streets yesterday. There were no reports of other cities involved in the strike but public transportation between Port-au-Prince and the provinces was at a standstill.

NATIONAL GOVERNING COUNCIL DISSOLVES CATH

FL241059 Hilversum International Service in English 1030 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] The National Governing Council in Haiti has issued a decree to dissolve the leftist trade union which had called for a general strike earlier this week. The union, the Autonomous Central of Haitian Workers [CATH], called the general strike to obtain salary increases and the repatriation of Hatians, who are forced to work in the sugar industry in the neighboring Dominican patrolled Republic.

Even though the strike call received little support, the situation in Haiti remains tense. The capital, Port-au-Prince, is being heavily by the army.

ST LUCIA

COMPTON URGES EASTERN CARIBBEAN TO CONSIDER UNION

FL222055 Bridgetown CANA in English 1643 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, June 20, CANA -- The chairman of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) wants every citizen of the seven member countries to "rationally and objectively" consider the issue of a political union. The appeal from John Compton, the prime minister of St Lucia, came in an address to mark the sixth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Basseterre establishing the OECS.

Faced by a growing cohesion from within, which has presented us with some measure of success in combatting the threats from without, the political leaders of the OECS, conscious of the need to strengthen the organisation for our own survival, have decided to put the question to the people of converting the organisation into a nation, Compton said. Compton said that this process, which requires the widest measure of consultation, is now being initiated throughout the OECS. Reflecting on some of the initiatives which had taken place towards integrating the states, the prime minister referred to the arrangement to remove all internal barriers to trade by January 1988, and the concerted action by the OECS to prevent the expulsion of some of its members from the soft window of the World Bank until 1991.

Compton said that together the islands had negotiated a major technical vocational project from the World Bank and the OPEC fund, which as current chairman he had just signed on behalf of the OECS in Caracas.

We have just conducted successful negotiations with the European Community on the scale and scope of projects which we receive from that body. We have had a major impact on the thinking of the World Bank and the IMF through our proposals for a special fund for the OECS which differed significantly from the standard proposals of these institutions, he said.

However Compton noted that at the same time that OECS cooperation has been growing, the outside world has been becoming more difficult. The major industrial countries have been experiencing difficulty and are seeking ways of cooperating among themselves to ensure continued economic recovery from the recent recession, to combat currencies. The threat posed to countries like the OECS are declines in foreign inflows both of private capital and foreign aid, and loss of export markets, he said.

ARGENTINE PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR 'INFORMAL TALKS'

PA240031 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1955 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Report by Humerto Mares Navarro from Ixtapa-Zihuatanejo]

[Text] Argentine President Raul Alfonsin arrived here in Ixtapa-Zihuatanejo a few minutes ago for a meeting with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid, who arrived at this port at 1230. At 1300, the Argentine president arrived at Iztapa International Airport. The two presidents greeted each other at the foot of the airplane ramp, then intrdouced their respective retinues.

The reception ceremony for President Raul Alfonsin was unpretentious. There were no honor quards, speeches, or protocol because this is a visit between friends, a visit of consultation between the two presidents, not an official state visit.

Immediately afterward, the presidents went to the FONATUR [National Tourism Fund; Fondo Nacional de Turismo] visitor's residence, which is located some 15 km north of Zihuatanejo. They are there now, and will remain there for 3 hours, during which they will hold informal talks. The Mexican president will also host a luncheon there for the Argentine president and his distinguished party.

At 1700, the presidents will hold formal talks that are expected to last 2 and 1/2 hours. According to Argentine diplomatic sources, the presidents will talk about matters related to peace in Central America, the arms build-up, the foreign debt, bilateral affairs, and a possible meeting of Latin American presidents.

The Argentine president will remain in Ixtapa for 7 hours. At approximately 2020 [0220 GMT on 24 June], Dr Raul Alfonsin and his retinue will return to their country.

Alfonsin Departs

PA240313 Paris AFP in Spanish 0249 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Ixtapa, Mexico, 23 Jun (AFP) -- Argentine President Raul Alfonsin left today at 2030 (0230 GMT) from this Pacific Ocean resort in Mexico to return to his country after meeting with his Mexican counterpart, Miguel de la Madrid.

Both presidents agreed to promote a dialogue at the presidential level in Central America as a means of promoting peace and to begin preparations to convoke a summit a chiefs of state of the Group of Eight (Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, Panama, Argentina, Brazil, Peru, and Uruguay), according to a press communique released at the end of their meeting.

Alfonsin's visit was private and lasted a little over 7 hours.

ARIAS ON FUTURE FOREIGN POLICY ORIENTATION

PA231703 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] President Oscar Arias has announced that within its humanist concept of the right to peace, Costa Rica advocates an honest pacifism, which is not a sign of cowardice, a surrender of principles, a blind and unrealistic idealism, or a surrender of the ideological and political struggle for noble causes. Arias made this statement at the International Conference on the Central American Crisis, a peace conference where delegates from eight countries are participating.

Arias said that Costa Rica sees pacifism as a noble attitude that is filled with the spirit of solidarity in the search for a lasting and just peace. He said Costa Rica's pacifism signifies faith in man and his creative efforts, adding that war always brings death, suffering, ruin, poverty, and moral degradation. Today, he said, the horrors of war far surpass what Dante imagined. New and terrible weapons have subjected millions of men to atrocious affliction, he added. Meanwhile, true peace means life, construction, development, prosperity, and social justice. It is a just peace that also means cooperation among peoples and states in every aspect of their relations.

Upon examining the scope of the peace proposal he presented on 15 February, President Arias said that any effort to obstruct the proposal can only be explained as short-sightedness or indifference to the ruin of neighboring countries. He said the Central American countries are fully capable of deciding their own fates without foreign influence or tutelage. He said it is true that our countries are suffering the worst crisis in their history, and they are aware of the fact that they can be free with true and democratic liberty, with full democracy.

All countries appreciate independence and are opposed to war because they detest slavery and love peace, Arias said. Because of this, he added, Costa Rica's position responds to the need for peace and democracy in Central American and the world. The Central American people know what their legitimate rights are and they want to exercise these rights through the use of their two best weapons: peace and democracy. That is why we will not be discouraged in our efforts to achieve peace and democracy, President Arias concluded.

ORGANIZATION WANTS 2 U.S. REPORTERS OUSTED

PA232156 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] The Costa Rican Democratic Association has reported Americans (Tony Avergan) and (Martha Haney), who are in Costa Rica as reporters and enjoy the status of retirees, to the attorney general and administrative authorities. The association has asked the Government Ministry to declare them nongrata and deport them, while at the second district court in San Jose judicial proceedings will be initiated against them for various crimes.

After presenting a document of more than 500 pages, Orlando Castro Murillo, president of the Democratic Association, accused (Agergan) and (Haney) of spying for the Sandinists. The document he presented is a collection of information on the two reporters and tells of their relations with the Managua government and several international communist organizations.

Upon requesting their deportation, the Democratic Association alleges that it is for the benefit of the Costa Rican people's peace and tranquillity, because the two reporters have collected information -- in many cases false information -- regarding the complaint the Sandinists lodged against Costa Rica at the International Court of Justice.

The documents were presented to the press in an effort to help the responsible organizations and the administrative and judicial authorities prove that (Avergan) and (Haney) are a threat to state security, Castro Murillo said.

Meanwhile, the Americans have also been accused of threatening the association if it continues its accusations at the courts and to the media. The association will blame (Avergan) and (Haney) for any physical harm that may befall any of its members.

PAPER COMMENTS ON POLITICAL SITUATION IN PANAMA

PA220050 San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 13 Jun 87 p 10

[Editorial: "The Democratization of Panama"]

[Text] Yesterday we published an article by Dr Miguel Angel Rodriguez Echeverria that correctly analyzes the concern held by most Costa Ricans about the current political situation in Panama.

We have a Communist dictatorship on our northern border. Therefore, we are justly concerned about the danger of having another one created on our southern border. We are well aware how easily military dictatorships end up in the opposite type of totalitarianism. The widespread dicsontent created by military repression leads the people to support any change just for the sake of change, regardless of the result.

Nicaragua's case is a good example of this. The support of the people to end the Somoza dictatorship made them advocate a change. The communists took advantage of the situation and betrayed the democratic spirit of the change, installing a new dictatorship, which, at least in our opinion, is worse than the previous one.

Panama's situation -- estranged from democratic concepts -- has continued for an exceedingly long time. General Torrijos' image was a decisive factor for this extended period. This was mostly because of his charisma and his success in getting the canal treaties approved. After Torrijos' death, his successors have not had the same personality or ability, and according to reliable sources, they have been involved in serious acts of corruption.

If things continue along these lines, the Panamanian military will not be in power much longer, especially if -- as up to now -- the people's discontent is met with repression, which only adds fuel to the fiery spirit with which the Panamanians are demanding honesty and freedom.

Many people believe that Panama will not fall into the hands of communism because the Canal Zone is within Panama's territory. It would undoubtedly be hard for international communism to confront openly U.S. military might, which is determined to defend its holdings and personnel in that area.

However, it would not be too hard for communism to covertly take over the Panamanian Government, leaving untouched the territory occupied by the United States, exactly as happened with Guantanamo in Cuba.

That is why we agree with Dr Rodriguez, who believes that Costa Rica should adopt a firm international position, seeking to guarantee the life, liberty, and political rights of the Panamanian opposition leaders, so a process of democratization can be enacted soon in Panama. Seeking democracy in Panama means defending our own country.

Demonstration at Panama Embassy

PA120525 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 12 Jun 87

[Text] A demonstration has been held in front of the Panamanian Embassy because of the latest events in that country. The Panamanian ambassador [word indistinct] he will return to his homeland.

Panamanian students shouted "Noriega must go." Ambassador David Pere brushed aside the demonstration that was staged this afternoon in front of the diplomatic mission because there are at least 10,000 students and only 50 were there.

The Panamanian ambassador and his staff stopped working because the group of students settled in front of the embassy gates and shouted slogans against senior Panamanian military officer Manuel Antonio Noriega. Carrying placards and posters, the group stayed for over 2 hours. Meanwhile, patrol cars protected the embassy, which was heavily guarded.

We are not a little gold coin to be well liked by all, said Pere when asked for a comment on current developments in Panama's capital and main cities following charges that there is opposition throughout the country. Pere said there are opportunistic sectors that have taken advantage of the statements by Roberto Diaz Herrera, the retired general [as heard], who he feels is resentful (?because) his statements created social and political unrest.

The diplomat said that this campaign was orchestrated a long time ago with accusations that Gen Noriega has participated in drug trafficking activities. On 10 May, the MIAMI HERALD published statements on all that had already been published about Noriega, said the ambassador.

Pere serves his vested interests and is not trustworthy, said Irene Morales, who took part in the demonstration in front of the Panamanian Embassy when questioned about the statements made by the diplomat, who said that the developments in that country are an orchestrated campaign.

What Roberto Diaz Herrera said is nothing new. He has not uncovered anything new. These are open secrets. What he has done is confirm the charges that have been raised ever since the electoral fraud, Torrijos' assassination, and [Hugo] Spadafora's murder said Morales. We are the new generation and will not allow officials like Noriega to stay in power another 19 years. We ask him to leave and not cause bloodshed in Panama, the young woman said.

ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER ON ORTEGA SUMMIT STANCE

PA231852 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] The acting foreign minister [Joaquin Alexander Maza Martelli] has charged that Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega is opposed to and trying to thwart the upcoming meeting of Central American presidents, at which the area's pacification will be discussed.

Maza asserted that President Ortega has launched a campaign against the Salvadoran Government and its position in regard to regional peace, in a propaganda endeavor that lacks the maturity demanded by the issue. In so doing, he said, Ortega is laying a smokescreen over his intention to thwart the Central American summit, the holding of which is motivated by reason, prudence, and responsibility.

Rosa Chavez on Summit Concerns

PA232310 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Report by Antonio Mineros -- passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] After [Sunday's] homily, delivered before a large assembly of churchgoers, Msgr [Gregorio Rosa Chavez] spoke with the press about the clarification of the murder of Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero.

[Rosa Chavez] "We want to stress that the reports we heard this week worry us because unconfessable things are concealed beneath the mask of apparent interest in clarifying his death. I want to see those interested in the matter on their knees before the monsignor's tomb. Then [words indistinct] what they are saying."

On the suspension of the presidential summit that was to have taken place in Antigua, Guatemala, on 25 and 26 June, [words indistinct] Msgr Rivera y Damas said in Germany [not further identified] that if the meeting was canceled as a result of foreign pressures then the church was not [words indistinct].

[Rosa Chavez] "I believe we Central Americans must take our problems into our own hands. The problem is regional; therefore, the solutions must also be regional. In this context, he fully supports this initiative because it is a Central American effort. We are not all that concerned about whether the meeting is held on the scheduled date or not, but about the meeting not taking place altogether. The path is treacherous and difficult. However, that is no excuse to remain with our arms folded, because that would imply a surrender to fatalism in expectation of the final holocaust. We cannot do that."

On the more than 10,000 Salvadorans who are refugees in Mesa Grande, Honduras, as a result of the Salvadoran conflict, Msgr Rosa Chavez said the church is holding talks with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR, and with the government to enable those people to return to their homes under adequate mechanisms guaranteeing their safety and well-being.

ESA DISAVOWS COMMUNIQUE, VOWS URBAN ACTION

PA200106 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 18 Jun 87 p 5

["Complete text" of letter sent to LA PRENSA GRAFICA by the Secret Anticommunist Army, ESA, dated San Salvador, 16 June]

[Text] San Salvador, 16 June 1987

Chief Editor, LA PRENSA GRAFICA

By this means, we wish to state for the record that the communique released yesterday, which was attributed to us, was not prepared by us. We always use paper with our own letterhead -- as we have done on this occasion -- as well as our own slogans. We have never been involved with the Maximiliano Hernandez Martinez Brigade; therefore, that communique lacks all authenticity.

The problem is that there is an internal power struggle underway within the University of El Salvador, in which communist activists who are no longer useful are being purged, at a time when elections for university authorities are under way. One case in point is that of the vice dean of the School of Agronomy, an individual who is not committed to university unity, and who has refused the post, which has generated demonstrations of repudiation. This new covert action is intended to promote an entire propaganda campaign designed to discredit our glorious Armed Forces and the entire democratic process that is currently under way in the country.

Exercising our right to have this communique published in the same space -- as a rebuttal -- we close, noting that you will soon receive reports on actions by our urban commandos.

Commander Aguiles Baires, chief of the Political Military Section of the ESA.

FMLN WAR CRIPPLED, INJURED LEAVING COUNTRY

PA190425 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1630 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Report by Raul Beltran]

[Text] These are our last minute, duly confirmed reports. Please listen to this report carefully.

The government of President Jose Napoleon Duarte and FMLN headquarters have started discussing the overseas evacuation of FMLN war cripples. A report directly from the FMLN press office discusses the following four points:

1) In the upcoming days, 129 FMLN war injured will be evacuated from the country in compliance with the agreement for war injured and crippled that was signed by the government and the FMNL and FDR on 26 January 1987 in Panama City.

2) The agreement states that the evacuation of war injured and crippled for medical attention will take place without prior negotiation or barter, that there will be no obstacles to their transfer abroad, and that the San Salvador Archbishopric will be the guarantor of this accord and others which will be shortly agreed upon.

3) The San Salvador Archbishopric has started to receive and lodge in special shelters the crippled comrades to be evacuated. The International Red Cross gives its protection and assistance and will guarantee evacuation to Latin American and European countries that have offered their humanitarian cooperation. We confirm to YSKL listeners that several of the 129 FMLN war crippled have already been received in two of the Catholic Church shelters in areas of the capital.

4) To carry out the evacuation of our crippled fighters, we have made several diverse proposals for more than 3 months, as Msgr Rivera y Damas and his Auxiliary Bishop Msgr Gregorio Rosa Chavez can confirm. Therefore, we reject the statements and insinuations that try to blame us for the delay in solving this case, the last minute communique from the FMLN press office states in the four-point bulletin sent to the studios of Radio Cadena YSKL.

The most important point to stress in this document is that the war crippled have already started to arrive at the Catholic Church shelter centers prior to the 129 fighters leaving for abroad, in accordance with the agreement reached between the government and the FMLN on 26 January in Panama City.

We end this last minute confirmed report, YSKL listeners.

VENCEREMOS ON GUERRILLA ACTIONS 24 MAY-20 JUN

PA221959 [Editorial report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 2300 GMT on 21 June broadcasts a 5-minute series of military reports on a number of guerrilla actions conducted between 24 May and 20 June.

At 0001 on 24 May, guerrilla units distributed propaganda and sabotaged two high-tension towers on the Coastal Highway near the exit to Los Mangos, Usulutan Department. Early in the morning of the same day, two guerrilla mines inflicted three casualties on the demoralized Duartist troops. At 1100 on 19 June, FMLN guerrillas clashed with the Cuscatlan Battalion near San Jeronimo Canton, San Gerardo Jurisdiction, eastern San Miguel Department. We seriously injured one of the pro-imperialists. At 1845 on 20 June, FMLN units ambushed a military vehicle transporting cavalry troops. That action took place on the Coastal Highway near Las Floridas, Tecoluca Jurisdiction, San Vicente Department. "Our comrades of the heroic Anastacio Aquino paracentral front reported that we inflicted four casualties, including dead and wounded, on the criminal troops of the useless Guzman Aguilar." [Colonel Mauricio Guzman] After the attack, the FMLN guerrillas withdrew unhurt and without problems.

During the week of 14-20 June, the FMLN inflicted a total of 75 casualties, including dead and wounded on the enemy troops. A sublieutenant and a cadet were among the casualties. Of those 75 casualties, 37 were caused by mines, 25 by rifle fire, and the others by snipers and varied attacks. During that same week, "we confiscated valuable war materiel from the Duartist Army. We recovered the following material: 5 military uniforms, 1 factory-made grenade, 1 piece of military equipment, 400 7.62-mm cartridges, and 1 claymore mine."

Other actions during the week of 14-20 June included 23 propaganda actions, the destruction of one military truck, the damaging of one UH-1H helicopter, and the sabotage of 8 high-tension towers and 32,000 coffee plants in Santa Ana. Radio Venceremos states that the 14-20 June report does not include the 402 enemy casualties in Morazan Department.

SOCIAL SECURITY LABOR CONFLICT WORSENS

PA222242 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1947 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] San Salvador, 22 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- About 800 workers of the Salvadoran Social Security Institute (ISSS), representing the 5,800 employees on strike, decided today to continue the strike and suspend the emergency services.

Moreover, the Trade Union of Salvadoran Social Security Institute Workers (STISSS), demanded from the authorities of the country's most important health institution the resumption of negotiations to end the strike, begun 22 days ago and affecting more than 350,000 Salvadorans.

STISSS leader Guillermo Rojas said this morning that Social Security Director Jorge Bustamante and the Duarte administration are "intransigent" because they "do not sit down and negotiate."

On 1 June, the STISSS called for an indefinite strike for a $30 salary increase and other demands such as improvements in the hospitals affected by the 10 October 1986 earthquake.

The union workers also demanded that medical attention be improved and that the peasants be incorporated to the Social Security system.

Meanwhile, the ISSS management maintained that the strike "is inhuman," that they "will not negotiate under any type of pressure," and announced that the insured will be able to attend the private clinics of the doctors who work for the Social Security Institute.

Rojas affirmed that the suspension of the emergency services that had been rendered up to now despite the strike, "is an additional type of pressure to force the ISSS management to negotiate."

"We know that we are going to affect blameless users." Rojas said, "but our struggle is a just one and what we are demanding will ultimately benefit the insured."

The union leader explained that Social Security has reached neither the peasants nor the most needy sectors of the population, such as the children of insured employees, and the domestic help."

The workers pointed out that the Social Security old-age pensions granted by the ISSS "do not cover the high cost of living," and the maternity aid and aid for nursing mothers "is not delivered in full."

The Association of Salvadoran Businessmen and Industrialists (SCIS) has insisted that the Social Security Institute be turned over to the private sector, and that the conflict has reached a point where neither management nor the workers "want to budge an inch."

FOREIGN MINISTER ON POSTPONING ESQUIPULAS MEETING

PA231908 Guatemala Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Guatemalan Foreign Minister Mario Quinones Amezquita said today if President Jose Napoleon Duarte does not change his stance and Nicaragua does not accept the date proposed by El Salvador for the summit, other options will have to be chosen.

[Begin Quinones recording] [Words indistinct] the answer of the president of El Salvador, or at least El Salvador [words indistinct]. El Salvador has said it will not attend the [words indistinct]. If El Salvador insists that the summit be held in August, and Nicaragua does not want the meeting be held in August, then I do not see how we can be able to reach any agreement. We would then have to seek other efforts so we could reach some agreement. [Words indistinct] the foreign ministers meeting. If the five countries are not present, there is no sense [in meeting]. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Quinones Amezquita said today that President Vinicio Cerezo has not reached a decision yet on attending a previous commitment in New Orleans, United States, in view of the recent events that have taken place in the area as a result of postponing the Esquipulas II summit.

[Begin recording] [Quinones] This is a decision that I have not been able to consult with the president of the Republic. He will have to make the decision of whether he goes to New Orleans or not. I think it is more urgent to see if there will be a presidents' summit, that we call Esquipulas II.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Quinones] [Words indistinct] perhaps it is worthwhile to insist on more. What is the purpose of the presidents' meeting? To learn of President Arias' plan and the reforms presented by each country. [end recording]

Calls Duarte Proposal 'New'

PA222227 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 21 Jun 87 p 2

[Text] Foreign Minister Mario Quinones has characterized Salvadoran President Duarte's proposal of preparing a single document for the forthcoming meeting of presidents in August as something really new.

However, he recalled that the note calling the presidents for the meeting that was to take place 25-26 June states that "the purpose of the Esquipulas meeting will be to gain information about the modifications that the governments may view as necessary to promote the strengthening of democracy and the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America."

U.S. DRUG FUMIGATION PLANES CAUSE PROPERTY DAMAGE

PA232146 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] According to our correspondent Roberto Espinosa Perez, U.S. planes have been spraying poppy and marijuana plantations for 12 days and have caused considerable property damage to agricultural and poultry activities in [place indistinct], San Marcos Department, because the chemicals they are using have killed many fowl and have affected fruit plantations as well.

PAPER 'DISAPPOINTED' IN CENTRAL AMERICAN DISUNITY

PA181937 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 16 Jun 87 p 10

[Editorial: "Political Division Grows in Central America"]

[Text] The dream will never disappear of rebuilding a large country that encompasses the five present Central American countries -- to which Panama is often added in the belief that its residents would be interested in joining a reunified Central America with a brighter future. However, that dream is becoming increasingly harder to realize. The deep differences that separate rulers -- not peoples -- have been and will continue to be the determining factors in regional divisionism.

Several years ago, Costa Rica had the only democratic government, which existed alongside four dictatorships. At that time, various Costa Ricans refused to sign the General Treaty for Central American Economic Integration under the pretext of preventing the growth of the tyrants' territorial possessions. The phenomenon of military domination in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador followed, which created a new and distorted physiognomy of political power in the area. After a number of steps, there was a return to civilian rule, and it was expected that the region would enjoy relative political and governmental homogeneity, thus paving the way for economic, political, and cultural integration. Enthusiasm led officials to consider creating joint diplomatic missions in various areas of the world and establishing a Central American front for meeting of international organizations.

The enthusiasm dissipated rapidly. Guatemala personally suffered the lack of Central American solidarity, particularly in the UK-Guatemalan conflict over the territory of Belize. Various "sister" governments voted against our country, and others abstained; the results were the same, because they failed to vote with us. This showed once again that the spirit of unity that could have placed the Central American nations in a position of joint defense against foreign voracity and ill-will was not deeply entrenched.

The Sandinist revolution that overthrew Somoza took place, gradually taking a left-wing turn in clashes with the political systems of the remaining four isthmian countries. To these fundamental differences that currently pit two governments against the other three [as published], one must add the increasingly belligerent anti-Sandinist climate emerging in Honduras and Costa Rica.

With the undeclared aim of stoppping the war against Nicaragua, eight Latin American countries have been working during the past 4 years to reach a regional agreement leading to the signing of a Contadora document or the Arias plan. Some people applaud these efforts, while others criticize them. However, setting aside opinions on this international political effort, Central American presidents exhibit too many problems to sit down at the negotiating table and make decisions. As history has repeatedly shown, they are not guides capable of resolving problems that emerge inside the region's borders. For example, the Esquipulas II meeting could result in either a pro-Sandinist or anti-Sandinist resolution.

However, it appears that the leaders lack the political aptitude for this. The extent to which the lack of political homogeneity is prevalent is shown by the fact that Jose Napolean Duarte, a Christian Democratic colleague of Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo, ruined Mr Cerezo's effort. In other words, not even regimes that share political ideologies can agree on matters of common interest. Based on this sad reality, how will it be possible to reach agreement between a Social Democratic regime such as Costa Rica's, a Liberal government such as Honduras', a left-wing regime such as Nicaragua's, and two Christian Democratic governments such as Guatemala and El Salvador?

Those who do not believe in the restoral of Central American unity must rejoice. Those who do believe in it must be terribly disappointed.

The developments of the past few days indicate that the political reconstruction of Central America is nearly impossible.

PARTIES SIGN 'DEMOCRATIC COMMITMENT' DOCUMENT

PA181710 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 12 Jun 87

["Democratic Commitment" document issued during a ceremony held at Los Reyes Room of El Dorado Hotel in Guatemala City on 11 June -- read by the "official congressional spokesman" -- live]

[Text] We, the leaders of the political parties and groups represented at the Congress of the republic; after much deliberation; aware that the country is experiencing a historical era of profound implications for the future of our society, and that in the past decades we have had an authoritarian system that polarized and confronted Guatemalans, causing a violent struggle with high human, social, and political costs; aware that our society is poorer now, and that it is essential to promote better conditions for social and economic justice; aware that there is an evident deterioration of our moral values; aware that we are facing the reality of armed conflicts in the region, circumstances that may hamper our democratic development; aware that the political forces we represent have ideological and political platform differences known nationally and internationally; and aware that we maintain our own identity and our own political and ideological position, as well as complete independence and freedom for each of our organizations: We agree that we must strengthen the democratic system, which is at a moment of historical transition.

We also agree that we must lead the country to a truly democratic regime, where ideological pluralism can be expressed with complete freedom and security, and where full respect for human rights and/or the principles of social justice for Guatemalans exists.

We express our faith in, support for, and willingness to fight for a true legal system, freedom, a representative democracy, and the right to vote -- all of which are constitutional principles. We also express our faith in and suppport for the people's will as expressed through honest and free elections, the system of alternating parties in the government, and the system of political pluralism.

We categorically maintain that the people's feelings are expressed by an emphatic no to the authoritarianism of the past. We believe that the task of preventing such a return concerns all Guatemalans, particularly the political parties and leaders, through a democratic commitment: to fight for a common goal. This common goal is to maintain and strengthen the democratic system.

In view of this, we sign this democratic commitment undertaken as a responsible and serious effort with political maturity and flexibility to prevent the return of authoritarian regimes of the past. Therefore, this is an absolute defense of the democratic process.

We declare that this democratic commitment is neither an electoral pact nor a partisan alliance. We vow to defend the authentic legal system and maintain and strengthen Guatemala's democratic and political system -- and as a result, defend the constitutional principles: freedom; a representative democracy; the right to vote; the system of alternating parties in the government; political pluralism; the autonomy of political parties; free and honest elections to build a politically, economically, and socially democratic society; and the permanent defense of human rights.

This democratic commitment is being signed in Guatemala City on 11 June 1987.

[Signed] Hector Mayora Dawe, secretary general of the Nationalist Authentic Central, CAN

Alfonso Cabrera Hidalgo, secretary general of the Guatemalan Christian Democracy

Rolando Vaquiax, secretary general of the Democratic Party of National Cooperation, PDCN

Fermin Gomez, assistant secretary of the National Renewal Party, PRN

Mario Fuentes Pieruccini, secretary general of the Revolutionary Party, PR

Mario Solorzano, secretary general of the Democratic Socialist Party, PSD

Roberto Ponciano Castillo, secretary general of the National Organized Union, UNO

GOVERNMENT WILLING TO ATTEND MINISTERS MEETINGS

PA240028 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1812 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Press Communique No 56 issued by the Foreign Ministry Press and Information Directorate in Tegucigalpa on 23 June]

[Text] Attention Radio America listeners. In a press communique, the Honduran Foreign Ministry states the following:

The Honduran Foreign Ministry Press and Information Directorate addresses the public -- as is its duty, being the institution in charge of Honduran foreign affairs -- to vigorously reject the statements published by a Mexican paper attributed to unidentified Honduran diplomats.

The Honduran Foreign Ministry does not share Guatemala's position on the failure of the presidential summit scheduled for August.

2. [Number as heard] The only Foreign Ministry spokesmen are the ministry secretary and the information subdirector, and neither of the two have made statements such as the ones attributed to Honduran spokesmen.

3. The alleged unidentified governmental sources do not express the opinion of the Honduran Foreign Ministry at all.

4. Honduras reiterates its willingness to participate in the three ministerial meetings that would take place in El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Honduras and expresses its wishes for the success of the Guatemalan summit for the well-being and peace of all Central American countries.

Tegucigalpa, 23 June 1987

Honduran Foreign Ministry Press and Information Directorate

Communique No 56

FOREIGN SECRETARY'S LETTER ON SUMMIT MEETING

PA230222 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 22 Jun 87 p 4

[Quotation marks as published]

[Text] The Press and Information Directorate of the Office of the Foreign Secretary informs the national and international public that on 19 June, Honduran Foreign Secretary Carlos Lopez Contreras sent to his Guatemalan counterpart, Mario Quinonez Amezquita, the following note:

"Mr Minister: I have the honor to address Your Excellency to acknowledge receipt of your kind message 01333 of that day, through which you informed me "that the Government of Nicaragua does not accept the change of date for the meeting of presidents to 6 and 7 August," as was agreed on in principle by the presidents of Guatemala and Honduras on 16 June in Tegucigalpa, an agreement later supported by the presidents of Costa Rica and El Salvador.

The Honduran Government remains within the framework of the agreement to meet on 6 and 7 August, an agreement reached by four Central American presidents, and believes it would be most desirable if the Nicaraguan Government were to join the majority. I take notice of your government's decision that "Guatemala will not go to any meeting of foreign ministers if the five countries are not represented," a position similar to that of the Nicaraguan Government, which according to your telex "is not prepared to go to any prior meeting of foreign ministers."

As coordinator of the first meeting of foreign ministers to be held in Tela on 25 and 26 June, I respectfully ask you not to be discouraged and to continue making diplomatic efforts to prevent the blocking of the foreign ministers' meeting from resulting in the cancellation of the presidential summit that Guatemala would host.

I take advantage of this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency my most distinguished appreciation.

Carlos Lopez Contreras.

Foreign Relations secretary.

Tegucigalpa, June 1987.

CONGRESS FAVORS U.S. PAYMENT FOR CONTRA DAMAGES

PA230220 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 22 Jun 87 p 15

[Test] Tegucigalpa -- A commission of the Honduran National Congress has recommended that President Jose Azcona ask the United States to pay $20 million in damages caused by the presence of Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries in Honduras since 1982.

In April, deputies visited the eastern El Paraiso Department, where the Nicaraguan rebels, financed by the Reagan administration, have established their principal operation bases.

During their tour of the border region affected by the presence of the so-called contras, the deputies were accompanied by leaders of the university students, the Honduran Coffee Growers Association (AHPROCAFE), and the Committee of War Displaced People.

The legislative report states that "the presence of irregular forces and the clashes with the EPS have caused 12,000 people to be displaced by the war."

These have also caused "losses in coffee harvests, livestock, farm equipment, basic grains, and housing totaling 40 billion [as published] lempiras, and have affected health, education, housing, and basic services."

The document by Deputies Miguel Antonio Zelaya of the ruling Liberal Party of Honduras and Ruben Palma Carrasco of the Christian Democratic Party describes the desolation prevailing in the areas near the Nicaraguan border as a result of the exodus of Hondurans toward safer areas deeper inside Honduras.

"For example, in the community of Espanol Grande, only 4 of its 60 houses are inhabited; while in Arenales, only 20 of 200 dwellings are inhabited," the deputies reported.

The government's actions "are considered insufficient to satisfy the demands for food and to generate employment."

The members of Congress have contributed to attaining a climate of relative tranquillity in the area, but not enough security to restore the population's confidence to return to their homes." [no begin quotation marks as received]

It was learned that the report will be discussed this week in Congress, which last year received a bill to expel the anti-Sandinist rebels from Honduras.

The parliamentary commission said it will be impossible to reach a definite solution for the population as long as the contras remain in the border region.

The deputies recommended as immediate solutions the declaration of the Honduran war displaced people as refugees so they will be entitled to protection by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); the establishment of programs to cater to health, education, housing, basic services, and employment problems, and the strengthening of the presence of the national Army "to guarantee people's lives, control the counterrevolution's actions, and prevent EPS incursions."

The report also recommends that President Jose Azcona demand from the Reagan administration the payment of damages of 40 million lempiras.

The supplying of foodstuffs to the population, the building of roads making access to the area easier, and heeding to the coffee growers's demands that their debt with the National Bank for Agricultural Development (BANADESA) be refinanced was also recommended.

FDN REPORTEDLY TRAINING FORCES IN OLANCHO

PA222329 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 22 Jun 87 p 7

[Report by Omar Said Mejia]

[Text] Patuca Zone, Olancho -- Approximately 400 members of the Nicaraguan Democratic Forces (FND) under "Command 3-80," headed by Colonel Enrique Bermudez, have finally settled near the banks of the Patuca River in Olancho, according to area residents.

The contras have settled in a place known as Planes del Rio Tabaco, to the left of the Patuca River. They selected this site after residents in Los Laureles refused to sell them their land.

Along with Bermudez, the anti-Sandinists are led by Commander Young Yang Martinez, a former counterintelligence services major under former dictator Anastasio Somoza, and by Colonel Blasser, the sources reported.

The FDN was unable to purchase land in Los Laureles in the Nueva Palestina sector because of the opposition of local residents, who threatened to march to Tegucigalpa. However, it managed to by an area of 200 manzanas in a jungle sector for 90,000 lempiras, which were paid to a landowner named Berrios.

Residents of Patuca have expressed fear since the contras were first seen riding mules in the Betania, La Malasia, and Rio Lagarto hamlets.

The sources said they have seen a black, a blue, and a white helicopter hovering and landing in the area. On Monday 15 June at 1230, the helicopters landed in a soccer field in Poncaya for repairs.

In addition, they said that contras fish in the river with hand grenades, and have sold some of those, as well as AK-47 rifles, to civilians. According to local residents, this corroborates reports on the murder of a peasant with a hand grenade by former [as published] FDN member "Juan Contra," who brags about belonging to the 3-80 Command based in that sector.

The informers said the area has become a vast training field. They added that on several occasions the contras have damaged corn and rice fields while visiting nearby villages.

EDITORIAL CLAIMS ARIAS PLAN, PEACE 'DRIFTING'

PA191751 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Jun 87 p 6

[Editorial: "The Arias Plan Has Been Torpedoed and Is Drifting"]

[Text] The much-talked-about Arias plan for detente in Central America is drifting away, torpedoed by Salvadoran President Napoleon Duarte, who is following instructions from the U.S. roving Ambassador Mr Philip Habib.

The results of the meeting held in Tegucigalpa by two presidents -- who are both engineers, Vinicio Cerezo (Guatemala) and Jose Simon Azcona Hoyo (Honduras) -- demonstrate the Guatemalan predident is resigned to the sad truth that the Central American presidential leadership cannot determine the fate of Central America as long as economic dependency, especially psychological dependency, remains or increases for the benefit of U.S. control in the region.

This time, it has become evident there is a new alignment of the so-called "Tegucigalpa Group." In spite of the evident contradictions between President Arias and Foreign Minister Madrigal Nieto in handling foreign policy, Costa Rica seems to be less involved than El Salvador and Honduras in the role of pawns in the Central American chess game.

Guatemala, in turn, reaffirms its position of greater independence and active diplomacy for the pacification of the area. Costa Rica is setting the pace because, after all, it is the leader of the Central American peace plan strongly supported by the U.S. Congress, which is confronting the Reagan administration's policy concerning Central America.

The acceptance by President Cerezo of the date ordered by President Duarte (the early days of August) for holding the Central American "summit" in Guatemala, and three upcoming meetings of the Central American foreign ministers for remodeling the Arias plan -- surely to coordinate it with alleged U.S. strategic interests in the region -- suggests the same method that was applied to boycott the Contadora process.

Many things can happen in the time lapse between these foreign ministers' meetings and the presidential summit. With all the possible patience there might be between dates, the Arias plan will possibly fizzle out. From then on, the Central American problem of peace, or rather war, will be left practically without any alternative. It will be very difficult for Contadora to pick up the initiative again, at least with the speed necessary for solving the new deadlock.

It is also very clear which people are truly responsible for the absence of peace -- and in this case, the presence of war -- in Central America. Intransigence has joined arrogance. Then, a local lack of capabilities joins a lack of courage to act strongly in something that is definitely very important: the future of the Central American people with peace necessary for its economic and social development.

In the midst of this Central American intrigue that has been carelessly set up -- because not even appearances are important anymore -- one clearly sees not only Mr Habib, but also Mr Elliott Abrams, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, who traveled with Mr Fred Ikle, under secretary of defense; and Mr Jose Sorzano, member of the U.S. National Security Council.

Mr Abrams "does not have a mission" to fulfill, said the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee for Latin America, Senator Christopher Dodd, who called him to the U.S. Congress for Iran-contra hearings. Mr Abrams' head is about to roll, and if this should happen, the puppets of the Central American puppet show would be abandoned like orphans.

Therefore, this visit by such high-ranking officials from the State Department and the Department of Defense leave a very definite picture: The policy of Mr Abrams, "the strong man" of Central America, will be strengthened in the sense that the rulers, both civilian and military, will be given tranquilizers in the face of the expectations of a change of policy by part of the administration, regardless of what will happen in the end to Mr Abrams.

It is noteworthy to say that since the Arias plan is bogged down, the only coherent thing evident is the tenacity of the Reagan administration to continue with the war in this region, whatever the cost. One then has to wait as see how far the U.S. Congress will enforce an equal tenacity and change this course for the benefit of these unfortunate peoples who are considered the backyard of the colossus of the north.

INFORMATION MINISTER CONFIRMS ORTEGA PANAMA TRIP

PA231356 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Manuel Espinoza, minister of information and press of the Presidency, has confirmed that President Daniel Ortega Saavedra will make a trip to Panama. Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle invited Commander Ortega Saavedra to visit Panama City to find a formula that will permit the Central American presidents' summit to be held. Manuel Espinoza told this station that President Ortega Saavedra will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Father Miquel D'Escoto Brockman.

[Begin recording] [Espinoza] On Wednesday, President Daniel Ortega will meet with Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle.

[Reporter] Will the trip be just a few hours long?

[Espinoza] The Nicaraguan president's trip is at the invitation of President Eric Arturo Delvalle. The topic will be the proposed meeting of Central American presidents in Guatemala and the latest events surrounding the plans for that summit. [response as heard]

[Reporter] Has the delegation that will accompany President Ortega been decided?

[Espinoza] No, for the time being we can only confirm that the foreign minister will travel with him. [end recording]

Ortega on Trip Summit

PA231911 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1804 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Report by Mario Antonio Zelaya Zelaya from Matagalpa]

[Text] Comrade Daniel Ortega Saavedra, president of the Republic, upon visiting this morning the birthplace of Carlos Fonseca Amador, commander in chief of the revolution, said during a news conference:

[Begin recording] [Ortega] I believe that position [not further identified] is just because all the Central American presidents without exception should meet. A meeting of foreign ministers where even one of the foreign ministers of any of the Central American countries is absent immediately becomes weaker.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Ortega] We will go to Panama taking into account that Panama is part of the Contadora Group. Yesterday, I spoke over the telephone with President Delvalle and we agreed to meet tomorrow to seek ways to unblock this [words indistinct] and so that the presidents' meeting may be held.

[Reporter] Mr President, what is the picture on the regional negotiations after the positions adopted by Nicaragua [words indistinct] and Guatemala regarding this meeting? Is there no possibility of [words indistinct].

[Ortega] One must talk about the picture regarding the U.S. position, which has rejected President Arias' proposal. Then there was the trip by Mr Habib to Central America. That is the point [words indistinct] Nicaragua and Guatemala's position is congruent with the decision the Central American presidents had already made to meet on 25 and 26 June in Guatemala. Due to the U.S. Government's position, due to the pressures exerted by Mr Habib on various Central American presidents, including President Duarte, the meeting is about to go under. [end recording]

Those were the remarks by Comrade President Daniel Ortega Saavedra after the main event to commemorate the 51st birthday of Commander in Chief of the Revolution Carlos Fonseca Amador, during which the order of Carlos Fonseca was given to Comrades Mario Flores Ortiz, adviser to the health minister; Carlos Zamora Herrera, coordinator of the FSLN Regional Committee and minister delegate of the Presidency here in Region 6; Comrade Nora Astorga, Nicaraguan ambassador to the United Nations, and Captain Julio Cesar Aguilar Ochoa, chief of the Simon Bolivar BLI [Battalion for Unconventional Warfare].

After the ceremony, Comrade President Ortega walked down the streets of Matagalpa with Commanders of the Revolution Bayardo Arce Castano, Victor Manuel Tirado Lopez, Comrade Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, and Rene Nunez, secretary of the FSLN National Directorate.

GOVERNMENT TO FILE BRIEF AT ICJ ON JUNE 1986 RULING

PA240114 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Nicaragua will file a brief on legal arguments against the United States at the International Court of Justice at the Hague, which 1 year ago handed down a ruling on the United States. Nicaragua is demanding compliance with the 26 June 1986 ruling.

Alvaro Ramirez Gonzalez, president of the Nicaraguan Jurists Association [Asociacion de Juristas de Nicaragua], during a news conference, listed the concrete development that prompted Nicaragua to go before the International Court of Justice.

[Ramirez] "Beginning with the [attacks] against Puerto Sandino on 13 September and 14 October 1983; the attack on Corinto on 10 October of that same year; and the attacks on the naval base at Potosi on 4 and 5 January 1984; San Juan del Sur, 7 March 1984; and San Juan del Norte, 9 April 1984."

Nicaragua has appealed to the U.S. Government twice, asking it to abide by the court's ruling and asking that formal talks be held to establish the amount and terms of reparation payments. So far, the United States has not responded to this demand.

[Unidentified speaker] "The court's [words indistinct] establishes that the United States must compensate Nicaragua for the damages sustained as a result of military and paramilitary activities. It also establishes that if there are no agreements between Nicaragua and the United States on the amount and terms of the reparation payments, the court will decide this."

Debora Chacon, secretary of the Latin American Jurists Association [Asociacion de Juristas Latinoamericanos] said this organization will double its efforts to obtain compliance with the ruling. She urged lawyers to continue to support and express soliarity with Nicaragua.

VICE PRESIDENT DISCUSSES CONTADORA IN MADRID

PA231917 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Madird -- Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez believes that the mediating role of the Contadora Group has been strengthened following the failure of the Arias plan and the postponement of the Central American presidential summit. However, the revolutionary leader warned that as long as the U.S. Government is not willing to negotiate, the Central American peace process will be doomed to failure.

Vice President Ramirez Mercado explained that the revolutionary government never rejected the Arias plan. He added that the Arias plan was discredited by the U.S. Government because the United States insists on continuing the aid for the contras. Ramirez Mercado said the Nicaraguan Government is not willing to participate in negotiations when it is known beforehand that they will be frustrated by the United States. The vice president said that a peaceful solution must come by means of the eight Contadora and Support Group countries because that is the only option.

Yesterday, Ramirez Mercado met with Spanish Deputy Prime Minister Alfonso Guerra to explain Nicaragua's position on the Central American peace plans.

ELECTRICITY OVERLOAD LEADS TO RATIONING

PA121853 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 10 Jun 87

[Text] An official of the Nicaraguan Energy Institute said this morning that yesterday's power outages in Managua were caused by damage to the South Front Station located next to the Manolo Morales Hospital. The damage was caused by electricity overload.

Regarding today's outages, the official said they were caused by a lack of electricity generation at the Managua, Nicaragua and Puerto Sandino plants. Thus, the institute decided to ration the electricity supply in Regions 2, 3 and 6. Electricity will be cut off in alternate blocks of 2 hours.

The official added that electricity rationing will continue for as long as the lack of electricity generation in the aforementioned plants continues.

PRICE INCREASES OF NONESSENTIAL GOODS ANNOUNCED

PA170450 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] To counteract the effects of the recent economic measures to increase government spending, beginning today the prices of nonessential goods such as sodas, liquor, beer, and cigarettes will be increased, Deputy Finance Minister Silvia Vargas has said.

[Begin Vargas recording] To counteract the fiscal measures recently announced by our government, such as the 30 percent increase in wages, the price increase of oil byproducts, and the new rates of monetary stabilization [tasas de estabilizacion monetaria], we have authorized the increase in price of rum, beer, and cigarettes beginning today. [end recording]

The new prices of these products per box will be as follows: Anejo rum, 72,000 cordobas; Plata rum, 48,000 cordobas; beer, 20,000 cordobas; soda, 15,000 cordobas; (?Salem cigarettes,) 1,000 cordobas; and Winston cigarettes, 6,000 cordobas.

With these new prices, the Finance Ministry will collect 72 billion cordobas more this year. In 1987 the government will collect 535 billion cordobas, compared to the 680 billion that the national budget will consume. The fiscal deficit is 150 billion cordobas for this year.

Deputy Finance Minister Silvio Vargas said the policy, in which workers who earn below the 19 [words indistinct] scale do not have to pay income tax, will be maintained.

[Begin Vargas recording] For the 1986-87 period, [words indistinct] will be 1.434 million cordobas beginning on 1 July. That is, all those people who earn this amount or below will not pay income tax. Those people who earn above 1.434 million will have to pay 6 percent on their differential. [end recording]

Vargas also announced a new incentive to promote the use of computers in Nicaragua. He said there will be a reduction of 95 percent of the consumers selective tax rate that was being charged for the import of computers. Vargas said that five private and government enterprises have been involved in tax evasion this year.

'VICTORIOUS LION' MANEUVERS HELD AT AIRPORT

PA222334 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] The "Victorious Lion" maneuvers were held in Region 2. The exercises consisted of a simulated defense of the [name indistinct] airport in the event of a counterrevolutionary attack.

Civil Defense, [name indistinct] Interior Ministry [MINT], and airport employees participated in the maneuvers.

In response to a preventive sabotage alarm, pilots evacuated two planes that were to be targets of an enemy attack. Employees and brigade members carried out rescue operations, gave assistance to the wounded, and repaired damaged aircraft. The MINT [words indistinct] detected and captured the saboteurs who had attacked the airport.

This action confirmed the employees' readiness, as each one played his role in the defense of this target.

DELVALLE INVITES NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA TO VISIT

PA231442 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 23 Jun 87 pp 1, 19

[Text] As part of an effort to achieve peace in Central America, Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle has invited Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra to visit Panama on Wednesday, 24 June.

The Nicaraguan president has accepted the invitation to seek a conciliatory formula to work out differences of opinion on the area presidents' meeting, known as the "Guatemala Meeting," set to take place on 6 and 7 August.

The two presidents talked by telephone on Monday, during which the Nicaraguan president confirmed to President Delvalle that he will travel to Panama, taking into consideration Panama's efforts as a member of the Contadora Group.

President Delvalle had sent on that same day an official letter expressing to his Nicaraguan counterpart his concern over the delay in or cancellation of the presidents' meeting in Guatemala.

President Ortega's acceptance of the invitation to Panama implicitly expresses confidence in our country and government's role as mediator in a dispute that threatens Central American peace.

Ortega has remained firm in his position that the presidents' meeting, initially scheduled for 25 and 26 June, should take place on those dates and that he will not accept the date change proposing that the meeting take place in August.

The letter from President Delvalle follows:

Panama City, 22 June 1987

Mr President:

The government of the Republic of Panama, concerned over the circumstances that can delay or prevent the realization of the meeting of Central American presidents in Guatemala; aware of the importance of this meeting for making progress toward the pacification of the Central American isthmus, and charged with the responsibility, as a member of the Contadora Group, of exhausting all efforts necessary to reach a negotiated peace in the region, has observed with regret that countries with interests and ties in this meeting continue to exert pressure to obstruct the efforts of the Contadora Group and of the Central American countries. In view of this and of your well-known efforts to contribute to the search for peaceful solutions to the Central American crisis, the Panamanian Government hereby invites Nicaraguan President Commander Daniel Ortega to visit Panama on 24 June to work on a formula that will allow the realization of the Guatemala meeting, during which the presidents will examine the "Arias plan" and other peace initiatives within the Contadora spirit.

Please accept, Mr President, the token of my highest considerations.

Eric Arturo Delvalle, President of the Republic of Panama
His Excellengcy Daniel Ortega, President of the Republic of Nicaragua
Managua, Nicaragua

FURTHER CRITICISM OF DODD'S STATEMENTS, VISIT

Accused of 'Meddling'

PA232024 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 22 Jun 87 p 4

[Editorial: "Mr Dodd's Visit"]

[Text] Senator Christopher Dodd has made it very clear in his statements that there is a plan against Panama in the United States. We know this plan is promoted by members of the opposition -- who are quite well-known here -- in connivance with ultraconservative sectors in the [U.S.] Senate and the lobbyists that certain Panamanians have there.

While an agenda was drawn up for the distinguished visitor to meet with members of the opposition, no appointment was arranged with outstanding leaders of the government parties. This was done to misrepresent what is actually occurring in Panama.

However, Senator Dodd said the people of Panama "are a peaceful people with no record of violence like other countries in the area and asserted that he trusted that the situation would be resolved soon." [quotation marks as published]

Before returning to the United States, Dodd said certain sectors in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives are confusing Panama with Chile and South Africa, which is a complete misrepresentation of our reality. He said this is dangerous because it may affect insofar as sanctions are concerned among those interested in the problems of drugs, democracy, and human rights. [sentence as published]

This indicates that there are U.S. sectors that advocate intervention in foreign matters and this reminds us of the "big stick" policy, which led many to believe that the United States thought it could intervene in hemispheric affairs as if they were its own.

Dodd is aware that the disturbances that took place in Panama were serious. He said, however, that it is hoped that problems can be resolved because they are always resolved peacefully in this country.

Dodd deplored the incidents provoked by seditious elements, but expressed his confidence that the problem will be resolved soon because not everything is lost here.

Undoubtedly, Senator Dodd's statements constitute meddling in our country's affairs. However, he has shed light on the bad intentions of certain U.S. groups influenced by members of the opposition who do not care if the canal reverts to Panama in 1999.

Called 'Ill-Disposed'

PA232300 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 22 Jun 87 p 4

["This Day" column by Demetrio Olaciregui: "The Ill-Disposed Dodd"]

[Text] "I came here with a message, and I am leaving with a message," was the farewell statement of Senator Christopher Dodd, a Democrat from Connecticut who, hiding behind an ill-disposed liberalism, shares the views of his conservative Republican colleagues when it comes to the Panamanian issue. They all act on behalf of the government when they are outside Washington.

Pretentious, like a prince in an imperial court, he left with a grimace because he could not force the Panamanian Government to lift the state of emergency which, according to him, has no reason to be in effect in Panama. How abusive can you get! As if the Legislative Assembly had any power to demand that the Lyndon Johnson administration suspend the martial law and the curfew imposed on Washington after the brutal assassination of Martin Luther King, leader of the black minority, when U.S. soldiers got drunk in the streets of the capital by drinking whiskey hidden in Coca Cola bottles. The Panamanian parliament would not have dared thought to demand explanations from those who were responsible for the deaths of students inside Kent State University, where they were protesting the Vietnam war. The autonomy of that university was violated by the force of the soldiers' weapons who were sent to kill savagely.

But this is what happens with the standard bearers of democracy-U.S. style. Prior to leaving Panama, perhaps because he felt he was within U.S.-controlled areas inside Howard Air Force Base and accompanied by the suspicious Ambassador Arthur Davis, Dodd dared say that the Panamanian opposition leaders asked him to promote economic sanctions against Panama because we have a government that is strongly influenced by the military.

What kind of world is this? Washington says nothing about El Salvador, where there is a mock civilian government that is under complete military control. Washington says nothing despite the fact that the regime has stolen half of the $2.5 billion sent by the United States over these past 7 years. Then, Roberto D'Aubuisson's death squads are in command. The squads' tentacles spread to Washington, forcing the Reagan administration to give protection to a former ambassador who runs the risk of being murdered by the Salvadoran ultrarights and to grant visas to wounded members of those squads so they can get treated at hospitals in Miami. Dodd should not come here to try to play a double game. He must tell the truth. Every place the Democrats or Republicans take control they create a facade of an inoperative democracy. El Salvador and the Nicaraguan contras are the best examples.

COLUMNIST SCORES U.S. ENVOY'S 'INTERVENTIONISM'

PA232337 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 22 Jun 87 p 5

["Vox Populi" column by Luis Restrepo Rosas: "Interventionism by the Proconsul"]

[Text] "Are the strong nations free to abuse the weak ones and make them serve their purposes and interests?" Eusebio A. Morales...1918.

This thought by this honorable Panamanian, Eusebio A. Morales, has become valid again at a moment when the U.S. proconsul in Panama, with terrifying shamelessness, has renewed and implemented the criminal form of interventionism that has caused so much damage to Panama since Yankee imperialism emerged as a product of the damned "Monroe Doctrine" and the shameful "Manifest Destiny."

Certainly, the Panamanians who say the task of promoting meddling in Panamanian affairs with the collaboration of many Panamanians has fallen on Arthur Davis, the U.S. proconsul on the isthmus, are right. Interventionism has been rejected by people as notable as Justo Arosemena, Carlos A. Mendoza, Mateo Iturralde, Pablo Arosemena, Belisario Porras, Domingo H. Turner, Ascanio Arosemena, and thousands of other Panamanians from all social sectors and political beliefs, many of whom paid with personal sacrifices the price of liberty and sovereignty.

During the past few days, as on previous occasions since his arrival in the country, Arthur Davis has been moving around groups he believes are in accordance with his intentions to promote discord among the Panamanians and to encourage movements against the nation and its highest interests. It is very possible that he is inciting terrorism and violence as a road for resolving problems which, as has been pointed out on many occasions, are problems of the Panamanian people.

Proconsul Davis, as has been pointed out, has been seen in the past few days involved in activities that are not in line with his diplomatic post. Proconsul Davis has promoted investigations on Panama in the U.S. Senate and in so doing he has been making evident a bias that is very dangerous for the interests of the nation he represents.

In Panama there is justified concern over the activities of this proconsul who, honestly speaking, does not deserve the courtesies that Panama grants proconsuls. [as published]

This columnist will now reproduce a patriotic message from Dr Pablo Arosemena for the benefit of the Panamanians who are not involved with the antinational activities of Proconsul Davis:

"Unity, unity is what the members of the isthmian family need to defend themselves from their enemies or at least to fall with honor in the struggle threatening them. We will not grow tired of saying that unity is what we need. In this way we are fulfilling our duty as patriots, as children of this soil. We know how to grow superior to the meanness of political banners."

ACAN REPORTS ON MEDIA CENSORSHIP SITUATION

PA231959 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1912 GMT 23 Jun 87

[By Rafael Candanedo]

[Text] Panama City, 23 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- The Panamanian opposition press remains gagged as a result of the indefinite extension of the state of emergency. Meanwhile, television newscasts continue to exercise self-censorship.

For the 3d consecutive day, the Panamanian opposition newspaper LA PRENSA submitted to prior censorship. Today it appeared without its "In a Few Words" column and without some statements by Dominican politican Jose Pena Gomez and Colonel Roberto Diaz Herrera.

LA PRENSA reappeared on Sunday when [as received] the Legislative Assembly, at the request of the government, indefinitely extended the state of emergency and the suspension of fundamental guarantees that went into effect on 10 June after a wave of street disorders and clashes between opposition demonstrators and the police.

A spokesman of the newspaper, whose circulation is approximately 30,000 issues, today reported that censor Miguel Angel Picard Ami prohibited the publication of an international news agency report in which Dominican Social Democratic leader Jose Pena Gomez denies a report about an alleged "plot" in the death of General Omar Torrijos.

According to the spokesman, the censor also prohibited the publication of a report based on statements by Col Roberto Diaz Herrera, who said he will not go into exile and he will prove in court his charges against General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces.

Two columns of the newspaper were censored: "Little Riding Hood Faces the Dobermans (riot forces)" written by newsman and opposition legislator Mario de Obaldia; and the "In a Few Words" column written by Guillermo Sanchez Borbon from his self-imposed exile in the United States.

The newspaper was not permitted to publish reports on Sunday and Monday on the incidents that have shaken Panama in recent weeks, including two ACAN-EFE dispatches on the extension of the state of emergency by the Legislative Assembly, and statements by U.S. Democratic Senator Christopher Dodd.

The opposition daily EXTRA was not published today, as its board of directors refused to publish. The newspaper's director, Cristobal Sarmiento, said the readers refuse to buy the newspaper because they know the newspaper has been censored.

Sarmiento complained that censor Jose Tribaldos Palacios banned him from publishing reports that had already appeared in the progovernment daily LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA.

EL SIGLO, a newspaper that supports [as received] the government, was published today for the first time since the state of emergency was imposed. Jaime Padilla, president of the EL SIGLO publishing firm, said the censor did not allow them to publish any report having to do with politics or the recent events that took place in the country.

The four television channels that broadcast newscasts -- all of them are private and progovernment -- have only received "instructions" as to how they must present the news.

The news director of one television station said that Rafael Ayala, the censor, had met with the editors to give them "instructions," and he frequently telephones them.

Sources from the television media emphasized "it goes without saying there are some faces that cannot be shown on the screen," and he [as received; not further identified] cites names of opposition leaders, from both political parties and from the "Civilianization Crusade", the group that early this month called for civil disobedience and supported a general strike for 1 week.

Some television channels have had to shorten their newscasts, and -- in some cases -- cancel them.

Radio Continente, which called on the people to demonstrate on the streets against General Manuel Antonio Noriega, has been off the air since 10 June. Radio Mundial, which is also an opposition radio station, resumed transmissions on Sunday, but is not airing any news or public announcements.

Colonel Diaz Herrera, who was retired on 1 June, accused Gen Noriega of corruption, abusing power, and murder. His statements unleashed a wave of protests with tens of wounded persons and hundreds of arrested persons, and led to the declaration of a state of emergency throughout the country on 10 June.

PALA COMMISSION ON CORREA EXPULSION REQUEST

PA231910 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] PALA [Labor Party] sources have reported that legislator Mayin Correa, a member of PALA, is being offered all legal guarantees and the guarantees established by the party so she can defend herself regarding a request for her expulsion from the PALA. Luis De Leon Arias, a member of the PALA Political Commission, referred to the status of the investigations:

[Begin De Leon Arias recording] The Ethics and Honor Commission continues the investigation and is complying with the party's bylaws. At this time, the Ethics and Honor Commission has informed Correa about the request made by the Political Commission so she can respond to it within the term established by the bylaws.

The National Executive Council must make the final decision. It will either revoke her membership or decide that there are insufficient grounds for that action and thus recommend she be absolved. [end recording]

SUPREME COURT RULES DUE OBEDIENCE CONSTITUTIONAL

PY231336 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1121 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Jun (TELAM) -- By a majority vote, the Supreme Court early today ruled the Due Obedience Law constitutional. The decision is linked with the [former Buenos Aires police chief] Camps case.

The decision was upheld by Justices Jose Caballero and Augusto Belluscio -- who justified their decision through a joint statement [voto compartido] -- and by Justice Carlos Fayt. However, Enrique [words indistinct] the law.

Justice Jorge Bacque disagreed with the other justices and ruled that the law is unconstitutional.

Caballero and Belluscio maintained that the judicial branch is not empowered to rule whether the actions by other branches of government have been taken at the right time or whether they are necessary or appropriate. They maintained the mission of the judges, in their capacity as administrators of justice, is to cooperate with the other branches of government in the exercise of their legal powers.

They maintained that Congress is empowered to establish that some crimes are not punishable, as it is set forth in Article 1 of the Due Obedience Law. They pointed out that this applies to the decision to rule some crimes nonpunishable on the grounds that punishment does not apply when there is an objective relationship between the person and the action.

The two justices also stated that Congress is empowered to decide whether some actions are crimes, whether they should no longer be considered crimes, whether they should be punished, or whether they should no longer be punished. Law No 23,521 establishes impartial reasons on the basis of which punishment does not apply. This involves the acquittal of the author of a crime, irrespective of whether the person is or is not resonsible for it. Yet the action, as such, continues to be considered a crime.

The justices explained that the forementioned powers are established in Paragraphs D and 28 of Article 67 of the Constitution. These paragraphs empower Congress to approve all laws and regulations necessary for the exercise of powers specified in previous articles of the Constitution, and for the exercise of the powers that the Constitution has bestowed upon the exercutive branch.

The justices maintained that law is neither unreasonable nor detrimental to the principle of equality before the law, because the Supreme Court has ruled that lawmakers can give alternative solutions to situations which, in their opinion, are different, provided this does not involve arbitrariness, harassment, or undue privilege. The Supreme Court has also considered that, from an institutional viewpoint, to declare a law is unconstitutional is an extremely serious decision and that, consequently, the court had to exercise extreme moderation when discharing its duty of checking if a law complies with constitutional regulations.

Based on those reasons, the Supreme Court ruled that Law No 23,521 is constitutional and, after analyzing the cases of Jorge Berges, Norberto Cozzani, and Miguel Etchecolatz, it overruled a decision by the Buenos Aires Federal Court whereby they were sentenced to prison terms.

The Supreme Court acquitted those three people under the terms of Article 1 of the Due Obedience Law, and ordered their immediate release.

The Supreme Court stated that the existing evidence showed that at Ramon Camps and Ovidio Richieri cannot avail themselves of the clause that establishes an impartial reason for justifying the acquittal. Therefore, the Court upheld the sentence handed to Camps, although it modified the classification of Camps' involvement, changing it from that of middleman to that of necessary participant or cooperator.

The court also upheld the sentence passed on Richieri, but it modified the classification of his crime. The punishment was reduced from 14 to 8 years imprisonment, plus the prohibition of holding public office for life, plus additional legal requirements [accesorias legales], plus dismissal. Richieri was found guilty of 18 of the 20 charges filed against him.

The Court rejected the complaints filed by the government's representative [defensor oficial], the court prosecutor, and the lawyer of the citizens involved.

As for the position of Justice Bacque, it was reported that he declared the law unconstitutional on the grounds that Congress has granted itself the powers of the judicial branch. In fact, the law has prevented the judges from hearing cases on concrete facts which had already been reported to the courts. In addition, the law has given validity to suppositions that deny facts already proven before the courts, Bacque stated.

Justice Belluscio officially announced the decision to journalists.

The Court upheld the 25-year prison term handed to Camps, modified the sentence handed to General Ovidio Richieri, retired, and ordered the immediate release of retired police commissioner Miguel Etchecolatz, police doctor Jorge Berges, and Corporal Norberto Cozzani.

The Due Obedience Law applies to these cases, and the court resolution, [words indistinct] expectation from the government, as was expressed even by President Raul Alfonsin.

The agreement [words indistinct] of the Supreme Court was initially [passage indistinct] return to his office, court head Jose Caballero announced the meeting would probably begin 2 hours later.

However, the meeting was again delayed until after midnight, causing expectation among the journalists accredited to the courts.

3 Released Under Ruling

PY240005 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2320 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Jun (NA) -- Police Inspector Miguel Etchecolatz, retired, police physician Jorge Berges, and Corporal Norberto Cozzani were released this afternoon in observance of a Supreme Court ruling that the Due Obedience Law is constitutional.

Lieutenant Colonel Jorge Alejandro Martinucci, director of Magdalena Military Prison, confirmed the report tonight.

CIVILIAN, MILITARY RECONCILIATION PLAN REPORTED

PY221600 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1635 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Jun (NA) -- The designation of military officers to occupy government posts, and the conclusion that "it is not reasonable" to think of an amnesty law before 1989, are some of the main points of a document prepared by a group of Army officers on active duty and retired. The document proposes some "ways for the improvement of relations between civilians and members of the Armed Forces."

The document is made up of reports prepared separately by that group of officers and is now in the hands of the Chamber of Deputies Defense Commission.

The conclusions drawn by these military officers state, for instance, that it is believed that the designation of some military officers to some "government functions" is advisable, and the document cites the Secretariat for State Intelligence [SIDE] and the commission for the transfer of the capital as possible areas where some members of the Armed Forces could be assigned.

The other possible areas to be occupied by the military mentioned in the document are the Argentine Railways, Sierra Grande, and the merchant fleet, in addition to some posts in the Defense Ministry and some organizations in charge of the development of border areas. The other possible way to improve the civilian-military relationship mentioned in the document is to make the Armed Forces' cadres understand that "it is not reasonable to expect an amnesty law before 1989."

The report also stresses the need to have further comments "from third parties" not involved in the current political process.

One writer of the document, who was not further identified, stated that such comments should come from "top national figures whose opinions will have real impact on the citizens and the Armed Forces." He explained his statement by mentioning "legal experts, outstanding personalities from other professional fields, and experts in military matters who are well known for their fair and unbiased thinking."

The document considers "essential" the restitution and consolidation of the chain of command within the Army, and that to achieve this it is appropriate "to prevent contacts at different levels." It also cites as essential "the fulfillment of the announcements made by the commander in chief of the Armed Forces;" that is, by the president of the nation. It also proposes the preparation by the Army of "courses for civilians" that must be given "in the National Defense School, the Superior War School, and the Superior Technical School."

In the same line of suggestions, the document proposes the preparations of visits by civilians to the military installations and the implementation of "a series of lectures by political leaders at the military school and at the Superior War School."

One of the other points stressed in the document is the need for a government campaign to promote the "importance of respect for the national Constitution." This campaign must be addressed especially to the youth, specifically explaining the objective of the Senate's agreement for promotions to colonel and general.

In this regard, one of the military officers who prepared the document stated that the Senate agreement "is provided by the Constitution to prevent the centralization of power by the president of the nation, who is the commander in chief."

He added: "If this were not so, the chief of state could designate generals of his own preference, which could be dangerous for the republican system."

The document adds that civil defense commissions, both at provincial and municipal levels, must also be made up of military officers, either retired or on active duty.

Regarding communications media, the report claims the military issue must be "kept out of this sector," and proposes a dialogue with government officials to prevent, as much as possible, harsh or bitter criticism against the Armed Forces.

The other point discussed by the group in the document refers to the action of the courts, stating that sensationalism must be avoided."

Although the report does not openly say it, this alludes to public remarks by judges that sometimes generate "diverse" reactions among members of the Armed Forces.

Regarding the strictly military sector, it suggests that the commander in chief of the Armed Forces [the president] "must periodically perform as such." One of the writers of the document was asked about the scope of that suggestion, and he explained that "the commander in chief should, for example, ask for a report on hypothetical conflicts and set a strict deadline for the presentation of the report."

He added that it would be appropriate that these performances as commander in chief be positive; that is, intended to yield positive results and not negative ones, such as punishments or sanctions."

It has been unofficially learned that some of President Raul Alfonsin's advisers who do not belong to the Defense Ministry a few days ago advised him to adopt such negative measures, urging him to severely punish an officer currently facing military prosecution for refusing to pledge respect for the Constitution, and to transfer to the interior a detainee accused of rebellion during Holy Week.

However, when the president conducted consultations he realized that in both cases the officers are under the jurisdiction of the courts, and for this reason he would be unable to take action until a court ruling is issued.

Thus, those who propose "positive command actions" are opposed to that type of action by the top military commander of the nation because "they would not contribute to improving relations between the Armed Forces and the civilian government."

Regarding the powers granted to the chiefs of staff, the report prepared by the military group, which is circulating within the National Defense Commission, stated that "the political standing and the powers of the commanders of the three branches and of the joint staff should be enhanced."

One of the men who prepared the document explained that this refers to the need to "give greater participation at the level of consultation and decisionmaking" to the chiefs of staff.

Regarding strictly military matters, the document suggests that military cadres carry out "concrete tasks" in the "morning and afternoon," for example field exercises. It also suggests "drafting every 4 months," which will permit not only a shorter period of military service but also a shorter and more intensive period of training for the conscripts. Thus, the officer cadres will have "concrete tasks" to carry out during three periods each year.

The report also includes opinions against the action of CEMIDA [Center of Military Officers of Democracy], and notes that it would be advisable to "restrict the action" of that group of retired officers, who are not viewed well by the officers who drafted the document, especially Army officers.

In conclusion, it suggests that the government plan for hypothetical conflicts so the Armed Forces "will have concrete objectives" on which to focus.

In the case of a refusal to plan for such conflicts, the document stresses the need for the existence of such possibilities "to not be denied."

ARMY COMMANDER CARIDI DENIES RUMORS OF CHANGES

PY231424 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2030 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Comodoro Rivadavia, 22 Jun (NA) -- Army Commander General Dante Caridi today categorically denied some changes will take place within the top Army command. He said he is visiting local units with the objective of "making direct contact with the officers who convey to me their concerns and problems."

The Army commander today completed the second stage of a visit that began this morning to Rio Gallegos Units. The visit is part of a general plan of visits to garrisons throughout the country.

"No. Absolutely not. I want to completely deny it. There are no changes scheduled for the near future." This was the categorical answer Gen Caridi gave to a question on the possibility of changes in the Army top command.

Regarding his visit to this city, Caridi said "we are fulfilling another stage of our plan of visits to Army units, to see how they are developing their activities this year." He added that the objective is "to make contact with the cadres, and thus, to learn their concerns and problems, and at the same time, to give them my ideas and thoughts about the Army."

On his inspection visit, Gen Caridi was accompanied by V Corps Commander General Pompilio Ferrucci.

Regarding the situation in Comodoro Rivadavia, he said: "I have found things well organized, and the people working in their respective fields. I have seen enthusiasm, and I think this has been a very positive visit."

PRESIDENT ALFONSIN LEAVES U.S. FOR MEXICO 23 JUNE

PY231556 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1539 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] San Francisco, 23 Jun (TELAM) -- President Raul Alfonsin left the U.S. city of San Francisco at 1217 for Ixtapa, Mexico, where he is scheduled to arrive at 1600 [1900 GMT].

After his visit to the United States, the Argentine chief of state will hold a meeting with his Mexican counterpart Miguel de la Madrid with whom he will discuss the Central American situation.

The two president's will also review the international situation, the efforts being made by the Group of Six -- of which their respective countries are members -- regarding disarmament, and the negotiations being carried out by the Contadora Group.

SIDE CHIEF ON EXTREMIST GROUPS, TERRORISTS

PY231432 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1414 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Jun (NA) -- Facundo Suarez, who heads the State Intelligence Secretariat (SIDE), today rejected rumors of an alleged meeting between ultraleftist Latin American terrorist organizations in the northern part of our country and stressed that "all the security and intelligence organizations have flatly rejected that possibility."

Regarding ultrarightist and ultraleftist groups and their hypothetical reorganization, Suarez said that "these groups really do not have the capability of carrying out large operations, but anyway, security personnel have everything under control in order to prevent any serious incidents."

Regarding the recent attacks, he said: "we are investigating an attack against a journalist, but at this time we cannot attribute it to any one sector or to any one individual, because the investigation is still under way."

Suarez also referred to personal security saying "according to the statistics, our country has a very high degree of calm and peace, and in this respect it must be made known very clearly that rightists in Argentina have no problem in developing their ideas as long as they are within the framework of the Constitution."

He added that "leftist parties can also operate publicly in any part of the country and this is why we must check the actions of the ultras, both left and right."

Finally, regarding the alleged meeting of ultraleftist Latin American terrorist organizations in Argentina, he said that "this rumor is totally untrue because when we received this report we inquired at all the security and intelligence organizations, who flatly rejected that possibility.

"The report we received, in which the activities of those organizations was outlined, turned up negative results and after carrying out a full investigation we can fortunately say the report was totally untrue," he concluded.

SENATE DEBT COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO VISIT U.S.

PY240111 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 Jun 87 p 28

[Text] Brasilia (Agencia ESTADO) -- Four members of the Senate Special Foreign Debt Committee will leave on 27 June for Washington and New York to discuss the Brazilian foreign debt with creditors and politicians. The members are: Carlos Chiarelli (Liberal Front Party, Rio Grande do Sul), Fernando Henrique Cardoso (Brazilian Democratic movement Party, Sao Paulo), Jamil Haddad (Brazilian Socialist Party, Rio de Janeiro), and Virgilio Tavora (Social Democratic Party, Ceara).

During their 4-day visit, the Brazilian senators will hold important meetings with members of the U.S. Senate committees on Latin America and on the foreign debt. At the U.S. Senate, they will describe the Brazilian situation and will request special treatment for Brazil. They are also scheduled to meet with Senator Kennedy, whom Chiarelli regards as the U.S. senator having the strongest ties to Third World parties and as a respected spokesman for U.S. opposition sectors. Thge Brazilian senators will also meet with IMF Director Michel Camdessus, IDB President Antonio Ortiz Mena, and with [International Bank for Reconstruction and Development] President Barber Conable. A meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is also being arranged.

Finance Minister Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira, however, will be in charge of conducting the Brazilian foreign debt negotiations. This decision by President Jose Sarney was conveyed yesterday to Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, a special ambassador serving on the presidential Advisory Committee for the Foreign Debt. In view of the presidential decision, Saraiva Guerreiro will be resigning from the committee.

The Advisory Committee for the Foreign Debt was created in April when the prestige of then Finance Minister Dilson Funaro was rapidly declining. The creation of this committee was interpreted then as a maneuver by Planalto Palace to reduce Funaro's power and provoke his resignation.

WORLD BANK TO LEND GOVERNMENT $8.5 BILLION

PY240112 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2255 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Between now and 1991, the World Bank will lend Brazil $8.5 billion. This was reported today by Planning Minister Anibal Teixeira after meeting with World Bank officials. Teixeira said that next year, the World Bank will send $500 million to be used on social programs. The loan will also be used to finance exports and to improve the financial system.

IMF MISSION PLANS AGENDA AT FINANCE MINISTRY

PY240218 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] The IMF has worked out an agenda for the assessment of the Brazilian economy. Thomas Reichman, head of the IMF mission, today met with Yoshiaki Nakano, Finance Ministry economic affairs secretary, to arrange the details of the work schedule with representatives of the Brazilian Government. The Brazilian representative before the IMF, Alexandre Kafka, also participated in the meeting. Kafka was the only one who talked to reporters after the meeting, but all he said was the work of the IMF team could take months. He did not specify whether he was talking about the report of the IMF or about the negotiations. The IMF mission will stay in Brazil until the end of this week.

BRESSER ON PURCHASING POWER, PERSONAL CREDITS

PY231438 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Finance Minister Bresser Pereira has guaranteed workers that there has not been any loss of purchasing power [arrocho salarial].

According to Bresser Pereira, this would only happen if the automatic salary adjustment mechanism continues to suffer high inflation rates.

Bresser Pereira also said the loss of purchasing power experienced in 1964, 1965, 1966, 1981, 1982, and 1983 was aimed at creating substantial trade-balance surpluses. He explained this is now unnecessary because, after a decline, the trade-balance surplus has been restored. An $8.5-billion surplus has been guaranteed for 1987.

Bresser Pereira also reported that the government is studying a way to reduce the term for the payments on the June inflation residues, which will reportedly be paid in 6 installments following the implementation of the price freeze.

In addition, the finance minister reported that the government is reviewing the possibility of increasing the terms on personal loans. According to Bresser Pereira, the goal is to prevent a recession.

POLICE INCREASE STRUGGLE AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING

PY231847 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0924 GMT 11 Jun 87

[By Adalid Cabrera Lemuz]

[Text] Sao Paulo, Brazil, 11 Jun (EFE) -- Augusto Bellini, the director of the Antidrug Department, today told EFE that police have started to close in on international gangs that use Brazil as a base for drug trafficking.

Bellini reported today on the arrest this week of a gang of Brazilians who were the support group for traffickers based in Bolivia and who in this country purchased chemical products, mainly ether and acetone, which are basic products for the manufacture of cocaine.

He stated that Brazilians Alexandre Rojas, Geraldo Tamazzi, and Carmelo Mantarro are the leaders of the gang, that they provided groups of Bolivian drug traffickers with chemical products, and that they were the contacts for the entry of cocaine into Brazil.

Bellini stressed that the police organizations are not only working to prevent the manufacture and sale of cocaine in Brazil, they are also investigating the enterprises that manufacture ether and acetone for sale to the traffickers that operate in Bolivia, Colombia, and Peru.

He also stated that the three Brazilian traffickers each week sent to Santa Cruz (Bolivia) approximately 200 liters of acetone, purchased in Brazil for $350 and then sold for $16,000.

Bellini stated that the free sale of these chemicals on the Brazilian market has made the international gangs decide to transfer their laboratories to Brazil in order to obtain larger profits and avoid intermediaries.

He stressed that in the states of Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Rondonia, Amazonas, and Sao Paulo police are investigating the existence of clandestine air strips used by the small planes that bring in the drug.

Bellini stated that the drug that enters Brazil is only partially processed, and that it is taken to laboratories in Sao Paulo, where it is converted into kilograms of cocaine hydrochlorate, and then sold on the domestic market, and shipped to the United States and Europe.

Romeu Tuma, the director general of the Federal Police, has said the police organizations of those nations have decided to carry out a joint fight against the traffickers in order to prevent an increase in durg addiction and violence.

He reiterated that the gangs have signed alliances with guerrilla groups in the border areas with Colombia and Peru -- including alliances with the M-19 and the Shining Path -- and with smugglers to cover their operations and foil the police.

Tuma stated that in those areas it has been confirmed that there has been an increase in the traffic of various types of weapons used by the guerrillas. A large amount of these weapons have been purchased with drug money in exchange for protection.

The Army and police have reinforced their outposts along the borders with Bolivia, Peru, and Colombia to prevent the passage of drug traffickers, smugglers, and guerrillas.

The Armed Forces have increased their personnel in those areas in accordance with the Calha Norte Project, which also includes Brazil's borders with Venezuela and Suriname.

BRIEFS

CONSUMERS OFFICE UNDER JUSTICE -- President Jose Sarney has signed a degree reorganizing the National Council for Consumer Defense. In the future the council will act as an organ of the Justice Ministry and will formulate and dictate policy in the area of consumer defense. [Summary] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 22 Jun 87 PY]

AIDS CASES INCREASING -- The Health Ministry has reported that 154 cases have been recorded in May. This brings a total of 1,835 patients with AIDS in the country. Sao Paulo has been mentioned as having the largest number of cases, with 98; followed by Rio de Janeiro with 15. [Text] [Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT Jun 87 PY]

COCAINE SEIZED, TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED -- Federal police have seized 2 kg of cocaine in Porto Alegre. This information was supplied on 9 June. Police Inspector Casemiro Emerim reported that documents containing the names of several contacts were also seized from the traffickers. Drug traffickers Dionisio da Silva, 41, and Ilda Salete Villanova, 28, are at the disposal of the state courts. [Text] [Brazilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 9 Jun 87 PY]

PINOCHET: CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, COMMUNISTS ALLIED

PY231145 Santiago Universidad de Chile Television Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] President Augusto Pinochet today said that no deals can be made with people who advocate the politial chicanery of class struggle and revolutionary violence. He made this statement during a luncheon with people of San Vicente de Tagua Tagua, at which he was declared an illustrious son of that community.

[Begin Pinochet recording, in progress]... and the Communists and those sectors who call themselves leftists and who seek to discourage private initiative, to take over the state to make it powerful in order to put an end to freedom. They go hand in hand with terrorism and extremism. They are always on two sides. On one side the political chichanery of class struggle, and on the other revolutionary violence. We must be on the alert against them. No deals can be made with them because any concessions strengthen them to the detriment of the fatherland and all of us.

There are also those who call themselves democrats, who wake up and go to sleep talking about democracy, but at the moment of truth, when the situation is serious, they are no good for defending democracy; they end up favoring those who are against democracy; that is, the totalitarians and Communists. [applause] [end recording]

President Pinochet added that the democrats who have the surname of Christians are among those groups, and that they experienced the drama of the Chilean people under the Popular Unity administration and asked the Armed Forces to take action. He said that today, however, they are hand in hand with the Communists. They are together in debates and other acts, and they do not see any of this government's achievements.

Pinochet went on to say that they use a Communist slogan because they are interested in power and not in what happens to the country afterward. He added that they are inconsistent, that they have not defined their position regarding communism, that they hurt democracy and the country, and that they say they are doing good but they are really doing bad.

The president said we must be ready to defend the essential values of our country with clarity, definition, and strong decisions. He also warned that the latest violent acts in the country are not isolated actions, but that we are facing an extremist organization that responds to the Communist goal of achieving power through armed and revolutionary methods. He concluded by reiterating that the government will continue to follow its established path until the political, economic, and social goals for the good of Chile are achieved.

PDC President Responds

PY232213 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Gabriel Valdes, president of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], has criticized President Augusto Pinochet for his statements against the PDC. It must be recalled that the chief of state accused the PDC of being inconsistent and of not adopting a clear stand regarding the Communist Party. Pinochet made these statements in San Vicente de Tagua Tagua.

[Begin Valdes recording] Like a ghost, President Pinochet is touring the country, campaigning for the elections. He preaches hatred and violence, promotes social injustice, and leaves a crowd of dead behind him. He is doing so to preserve his absolute power over not only the Armed Forces, but the people.

It is not strange then, that he should be a permanent enemy of democracy, and of the PDC in particular. He will be remembered in history like Hitler, Stalin, Trujillo, Somoza, and other like them. [end recording]

We will judge the government based on law, truth, and justice, Valdes said. [passage omitted]

'RIGHTIST' PARTIES REJECT OAS, UN ELECTION CONTROL

PY231540 Madrid EFE Spanish 0215 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Santiago, 22 Jun (EFE) -- Representatives of two rightist Chilean political parties today rejected a Venezuelan proposal that the presidential plebiscite, scheduled in Chile for the end of 1988 and the beginning of 1989, be controlled by the United Nations and the OAS.

The proposal was made yesterday by Venezuelan Deputy Maria Bello de Guzman, president of the World Union of Democratic Women (UMFDC).

Present at this meeting were Venezuelan First Lady Raquel Blandon de Cerezo; the wife of Brazilian Christian Democratic Party leader Framco Montoro, Lucy de Montoro; and delegates from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Venezuela, Uruguay, and Peru.

According to the current constitution, a plebiscite must be held between the end of 1988 and the beginning of 1989, during which Chileans must decide on a single candidate for the Presidency of the Republic. This candidate will be proposed by the commanders in chief of the Armed Forces and the director of Carabineros.

Carlos Cruz Coke, secretary general of Pinochet's "National Vanguard" Party, has said it is a shame that Venezuela, "a country with only 30 years of democracy, now affected by corruption at the administrative level, and which had even former President Carlos Andres Perez questioned over the purchase of a yacht, wants to set rules for Chile." He added: "The plebiscite will be held by Chileans with representatives in each of the 23,000 voting places, and with observers from political parties registered in the electoral book."

Moreover, "National Renewal" leader Luis Angel Santibanez has stated that "according to Chilean laws, the political parties will control or oversee the elections in Chile, whether they are a plebiscite or another type of general elections."

He added: "We cannot give up our civilian rights and our sovereignty."

CARABINEROS CHIEF FAVORS CIVILIAN CANDIDATE

PY230143 Santiago Universidad de Chile Television Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Carabineros Director General Rodolfo Stange Oelckers today said the ideal candidate for the 1989 plebiscite should be a civilian and that the Armed Forces should only guarantee the election process.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Would you favor a civilian candidate?

[Stange] Yes, I favor a civilian candidate.

[Reporter] What characteristics should the candidate have?

[Stange] In general, and in my personal opinion, I believe the candidate should be totally dedicated to the Presidency. Regarding his age, he should be mature enough to gain the confidence of the voters. He should be in good health, in order to face the physical and intellectual challenges of such an important post...

[Reporter, interrupting] Should he have any political leaning, to the right or...

[Stange, interrupting] I do not rule out this possibility. There is so much time before the plebiscite and the political panorama should be clear by then.

[Reporter] General, is a former officer an eligible candidate? Because it has been said that if General Pinochet retires from the Armed Forces, he could still be a candidate.

[Stange] You know that when an officer retires, he automatically becomes a civilian.

[Reporter] Do you agree with General Matthei, who believes the Armed Forces should only guarantee the election process and not participate in it?

[Stange] I fully agree with him. Especially regarding the Carabineros. The Carabineros should not be politicized under any circumstances. Moreover, we hope that all Carabineros will be exempt from voting because in our capcity as a public force we will be entrusted with guaranteeing the electoral process. Therefore, it will be very difficult for the members of the Carabineros to vote because we will be all devoted to safeguarding public order. [end recording]

ALMEYDA TO RETURN TO SANTIAGO, APPEAR IN COURT

PY230317 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0254 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Santiago, 22 Jun (EFE) -- The Chilean Interior Ministry today decreed that former Foreign Minister Clodomiro Almeyda leave his place of exile in the south and return to Santiago.

This order modified the decree issued on 24 March 1987, which banished the Chilean Socialist leader and foreign minister under Allende, to Chile Chico -- 2,433 km south of Santiago -- for 90 days.

In Santiago, Almeyda will appear before the courts to answer two charges filed against him by the Interior Ministry.

The first charge is disregard for the law of domestic security, and the second is based on the antiterrorist law.

The Chilean Government also requests that Almeyda be punished for having entered the country clandestinely.

FURTHER REPERCUSSIONS OF ALVA CASTRO RESIGNATION

Wagner Confirms Departure

PY231639 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1418 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Lima, 23 Jun (EFE) -- Peruvian Prime Minister and Economy Minister Luis Alva Castro last night submitted his irrevocable resignation from his posts, and the Cabinet over which he presides also placed their posts in the hands of President Alan Garcia.

According to journalist and political sources, it seems that Alva Castro intends to run for the Presidency in the 1990 elections.

Foreign Minister Allan Wagner today confirmed the resignation of Alva Castro and his Cabinet, but he said there is no crisis, recalling that when the prime minister resigns all his ministers must also resign.

Alva Castro's resignation had been mentioned now for some time, but when he was asked about it he always answered that "he refused [resignado] to talk about the resignation."

Late last night, Alva Castro submitted his irrevocable resignation to Alan Garcia after a meeting with the Cabinet at the Economy Ministry.

This morning at Lima's Government House there was total secrecy about the crisis, and President Garcia was preparing to travel to Tacna. It seems that within the next few hours a communique will be released on Alva Castro's resignation.

The resignation comes after President Garcia on 21 June said, without giving any names, that "in the APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] (the governing party) there will be no resignations," because the "idea of resigning does not exist in the party." The president added that "no one can use his personal situation or his current situation as an instrument for his own use."

Action Termed 'Normal'

PA231822 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1746 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] The resignation of the head of the cabinet, Dr Luis Alva Castro, is a normal action during the democratic phase we are now experiencing.

[Begin recording of unidentified speaker, in progress] ...that has been done by Dr Luis Alva Castro, prime minister and economy minister. I believe in these 2 years, his work and efforts have been very evident, primarily in the economic management of the country. Obviously, he personally made this decision, and I do not think the president will [words indistinct] evaluate this issue. I believe it is always customary that ministers place their posts at the disposition of the president of the Republic prior to 28 July (Peruvian Independence Day]. That is what is happening now.

Obviously, the opposition groups want to take advantage of the situation prevailing in the administration. However, I believe this is normal during the democratic phase we are now experiencing. [end recording]

Salinas Discusses Issue

PA240100 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 2340 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Report by Guillermo Maquilla from Government Palace]

[Text] [Maquilla] Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I have a report from Government Palace. A few minutes ago, Interior Minister Abel Salinas commented on the resignation of Prime Minister Luis Alva Castro. In general, he said that on behalf of the ministers, he considered the irrevocable resignation of Dr Luis Alva Castro from his post as the head of the Cabinet to be very regrettable. He added that the Cabinet is continuing its work, despite the fact that its members have placed their positions at the disposal of President Alan Garcia.

The minister added that so far, no names have been mentioned for the new Cabinet. Here are his statements for this station:

[Begin Salinas recording] The reason for this meeting with you is to talk about Dr Luis Alva Castro's resignation. On behalf of all the ministers, I wish to say that we feel our colleague Luis Alva Castro's resignation from his posts as economy and finance minister and prime minister is highly regrettable and deplorable.

As he told us last night during a lengthy meeting in the office of the economy and finance minister, he feels he has made an adequate contribution in his post as economy and finance minister, and that he also has a duty to the people, to the citizens who elected him a representative to Congress.

We also wish to say that efforts are continuing and that, although all of us have placed our posts at the disposal of the president as is appropriate in these circumstances, this does not necessarily imply a resignation of the full Cabinet in the usual sense. The head of the Cabinet is responsible for proposing and suggesting names to the president of the Republic to subsequently approve, dismiss, or confirm in their posts. That is why we have placed our positions at the disposal of the president. [end recording]

APRA Leader Comments

PA240254 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] APRA General Secretary Luis Negreiros Creado referred to Luis Alva Castro's resignation as prime minister:

[Begin recording] [Negreiros] We are going to issue our opinion; this is obviously a ministerial crisis. We will try to resolve it as soon as possible. The president of the Republic is empowered to do this, and he has always exerted authority with much wisdom. We have total confidence in, and support the president; we expect, I repeat, to report to the country as soon as possible the conditions for the formula or for the political solution.

[Unidentified reporter] Despite this secrecy, the tension here in the APRA is obvious.

[Negreiros] I would not say so. This is an obviously subjective appraisal that does not reflect reality.

We know...[changes thought] have overcome difficult problems, have been struggling for 60 years; and you can be sure that this matter will be resolved as the country expects. Our main concern is precisely that, and we make our decisions based on the interests of the country.

[Reporter] Is this [words indistinct] after 60 years of the APRA government?

[Negreiros] Yes indeed, this is an important experience. We do not make or assume our decisions based on personality criteria; we base them on other considerations of political and ethical aspects that guide and influence our decisionmaking. This is the first crisis, [words indistinct] considering the scope of the resignation of the prime minister. In view of this, we will respond appropriately. This should not surpirse us. APRA is a party composed of human beings. Obviously, we have a clear sense of our responsibility, have a formation, and with these antecedents, we will give an answer that will be in accordance with the country's interests and expectations. [end recording]

IU Deputy Views Causes

PY231926 Lima Radio Star in Spanish 1805 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Several politicians have passed their opinion on the resignation of Luis Alva Castro. United Left [IU] Deputy Fernando Sanchez said this incident has occurred because there is a confrontation between President Alan Garcia and Alva Castro, and its negative consequences will affect our country.

[Begin Sanchez recording] It was a resignation that had been previously talked about. It occurred within the framework of a confrontation between Prime Minster Alva Castro and President Alan Garcia. This could have been avoided. The country knew about Prime Minister Alva's desire to leave the Cabinet and return to his functions in the Chamber of Deputies. But, the way it has finally come about, the outcome of this conflict will be very negative for the country because it opens up a situation of uncertainty, especially because it has increased the general lack of confidence about the future progress of the ecomony.

Evidently the recent remarks of President Garcia could be justified up to a certain extent from the party point of view, but I think he went overboard somewhat in the connotation in terms of managing the government. I do not think it was very prudent to cite Haya de la Torre statements or principles and to accuse the prime minister of being a traitor to the APRA cause. I think that was excessive and it has motivated the explosive resignation of Luis Alva Castro. [end recording]

NEGREIROS NAMED PRIME MINISTER; CHANGES REPORTED

PY240339 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0313 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Lima, 23 June (EFE) -- Peruvian President Alan Garcia today appointed Luis Negreiros, APRA secretary general as the new prime minister, replacing Luis Alva Castro who resigned, the radio station Radioprogramas del Peru has reported.

The radio report, based on official "well-informed" sources, announced Negreiros' appointment as well as the appointment of Vice Economy Minister Gustavo Saberbein as economy minister, a position also held by Alva Castro, who resigned last night.

Negreiros will also reportedly hold the position of presidential secretary replacing Nicanor Mujica.

Radioprogramas said Senator Guillermo Larco Cox will replace Abel Salinas as interior minister and Manuel Pizarro, director of the Peruvian Medical Federation, will replace David Tejada as health minister.

The most surprising appointment, according to the radio station, was that of Deputy Mercedes Cabanillas as education minister, replacing Grover Pango. Cabanillas is the first woman minister of Peru.

According to the radio station, President Alan Garcia will allegedly appoint current War Minister General Jorge Flores Torres, as the new defense minister. This ministry was created recently and its regulations have still not been enacted.

The following ministers will remain in their posts: Foreign Minister Allan Wagner, Industry Minister Manuel Romero Caro, Agriculture Minister Remigio Morales Bermudez, Mines and Energy Minister Wilfredo Huaita, Justice Minister Carlos Blancas, Fisheries Minister Javier Labarthe, Labor Minister Orestes Rodriguez, Transport and Communications Minister Jose Murgia, and Housing and Construction Minister Luis Bedoya.

According to the report, outgoing Minister of the Presidency Nicanor Mujica will be the new comptroller; and Javier Tantalean, the head of the National Planning Institute, will become president of the Central Reserve Bank.

Alva Castro tendered his resignation to President Garcia last night. Therefore, in accordance with the Constitution, all the other ministers also had to present their resignations to the Peruvian president.

President Garcia, who today is making an official visit to Cusco, has not yet expressed his position on the first Cabinet crisis he has faced since taking office 2 years ago.

Agriculture Minister on Change

PY231820 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1707 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Agriculture Minister Remigio Morales Bermudez yesterday said he will not accept the post of economy minister and confirmed that he would like to remain in his current post, as agriculture minister.

In addition, the agriculture minister confirmed that if President Alan Garcia and his party think he should remain as a minister, he would only accept the post of agriculture minister.

Morales Bermudez added that he thinks that agriculture is a priority in the production of staples from our (?uncultivated) land, that agriculture is important and that he plans to continued contributing all his experience and knowledge.

GARCIA TRAVELS TO CUSCO; COMMUNIQUE EXPECTED

PY231711 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Lima, 23 Jun (EFE) -- President Garcia traveled to Cusco today after a 2-hour delay. In this ancient capital of the Inca Empire, 1,000 km southeast of Lima, the president will hand over land titles to hundreds of peasants.

The president has made no statement so far regarding the resignation of Alva Castro, and neither has the Presidential Press Secretariat, although it has been announced a communique will be released officially announcing the prime minister's resignation.

Delivers Speech 23 June

PA240340 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 0230 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Speech by President Alan Garcia in Cuzco on 23 June at ceremony to give property titles to area peasants -- recorded]

[Text] Fellow citizens, peasants and communards from Cuzco: My eyes have never seen such a large rally of authentic commune people and peasants, true heroic workers of the land. Never have I seen in this historic plaza so many ponchos, which are the historic banner of Peru. I have never seen so many commune peasants. I have never felt so strongly the commitment of the APRA government with the poor of the land, with the commune people, and with all the people of Peru.

This is why I have come to join the festivities of Cuzco. I am with you in this celebration, in this city, in these communities, with this our race, in this our land. I have come to breathe inspiration in this city. I have come to breathe the inspiration of its history, to find a correct path, to affirm faith and optimism, to see in the rocks of its walls the firmness, perseverance, permanent faith. I have come to see in our peasants their long patient wait and to find in them a solid alliance with a government that has to fulfill a revolution for the poorest, for the peasants; that has deeply to transform Peru so you may really be the owners of the fatherland in which we live. [applause]

I have come to ratify in Cuzco the historic optimism that calls for really transforming Peru to give a future to the poorest. I have come to Cuzco to ratify here the grand popular and revolutionary objectives that inspired the work and lives of APRA and Haya de La Torre and to say that no backward step will be taken. I have come here to say that the main purposes of social justice and national recovery will not stop advancing. I have come here to say that in spite of all difficulties, of all obstacles, our faith, our revolutionary will, our belief in the people, the peasants strength, the communards of Peru, are stronger to promote this revolution that cannot march backwards and that has to strengthen the poor people of Peru so they can be the authentic and legitimate makers of their future and of their land.

We promised and we promise that we will uphold our decision to have in Peru a nationalist government that will defend the interests of the land and of the fatherland. We promised and we promise that we will maintain a government that will not yield in the face of power from the wealthy of the country. We promise a democratic government that will care for the poorest people of Peru. We promised, we promise, and we will have a popular government that does not waste time, that never avoids situations to get closer to and to help the poor of Peru. We promised, we promise, and we will maintain a government of affirmation and of solidarity with national majorities.

We wanted and we want more independence and more sovereignty f r Peru to put an end to the dependent and colonial status of our economy. We wanted and we want a decentralized country that will open doors for the regions where the people should elect their own governments and direct their own future. We wanted and we want a more just country, where the disgrace of the foresaken, of those who wait, and of misery will step out to make room for social justice; a country where the abyss that separates the rich from the huge poor majority will make room for a more egalitarian society.

We wanted and we want to produce the recovery of the forgotten commune people. Our belief is that the revolution will not start in the cities, but that it will start in the countryside and spread throughout Peru. The revolution will come to claim for the community and for the people who wear ponchos. The revolution must begin here, down here, where history is, where poverty is, but also where there is faith and optimism for tomorrow.

We wanted and we want a government that will rescue Peru's cultural identity. We do not want to be the tail wagon of ideas and cultural models of other countries.

We have a historic past to rescue; we have a historic example to follow; we have to maintain the force of our race; we have to make an alliance with the poor commune people. We have to turn each house in each community into a government palace in a new Peru. We have to turn every poncho into a symbol of the future. We have to turn every poor man into a legitimate maker of Peru's history.

The objectives we established 2 years ago are reaffirmed today before this impressive, legitimate, historical, poor, but dignified group of peasants -- to whom I have come to say that many things can happen. We may face many obstacles; however, we will always feel the joy and optimism of knowing that we are with you, with the peasants, with the poor; and that thus we are following and faithfully complying with the mandate of conducting a revolution in Peru.

Therefore, during the first months in the government, we have completed a phase. We must now affirm and strengthen APRA's and the government's revolutionary principles. We must get closer to the people; we must seek unity with the poor of Peru, with those who work the land; we must seek a better and stronger alliance with the communards.

I have come to tell you that during these 2 years, we have done something for the land, because the land represents the nation, the original people, the first people, the communards. We have done something for agriculture, so the agrarian bank can reach communities in a broader and better way. In this department, only last year, agrarian credits for more communities and more peasants were doubled. In this department, as in all of Peru, there has been an improvement in the wages paid to peasants. In this department, as in all of Peru, interest rates on credits for those who work the land, on loans for peasants, have been reduced; in some cases, no interest has been charged.

We want the revolution to rebuild Peru from down below, not from the facade of the cities, not from the ministries, not from behind desks. We want Peru to resurge, as plants and fruits germinate from seeds. We want Peru to resurge from its roots. That is why we have said our government is a government of communards, at the service of the forgotten large majorities. Governments have remembered all, except for our communards, except for our communities, which for centuries and throughout this century have been neglected, have been without titles, without guarantees for their land, without credits. Communities were ignored, neglected, because they were not electoral clientele.

No one could get to the peasant communities to campaign for votes. They had to be forgotten and set aside. We have established as our government's main objective the recovery of land where the poorest live. We have reaffirmed through agrarian credits, through prices for peasants, through wages for peasants, the beginning of a revolution that will gradually bear its fruits.

However, we need peasant communities to organize. We need all of you to unite in a powerful historical force. Each community by itself, alone, is a weak community. We need to build a great alliance of Peruvian communities, so they can be represented before the government, so they can demand before the powerful what belongs to the poorest peasants. We need peasant communities to become a powerful federation. We need all communards in Peru to unite as one historical fist to occupy their place in Peru's revolutionary process.

Therefore, last year we began to hold meetings, with the presidents of peasant communities. We called them, we invited them, and we met with them, from president to president -- I, as president of the nation, and each one of them as democractically elected presidents of their communities. We began to create among the (?rimanaqui), who attended those meetings, awareness of the unity among communards, of the unity among those who have been forgotten so far. They need a powerful organization for all, to have a place and strength before the government and history.

We are going to continue holding meetings, in order to organize a powerful peasant force, because we need to have the Peruvian communards -- there are millions of them -- represented in the national dialogue of the forces that work and produce, which will be called the National Economic Congress. They ought to be represented in the great congress of economic forces that will be convoked, and which I am sure the parliament will approve into law. We need to have those who work the land represented there. We need a powerful force of communards with representativeness to direct Peru's destiny.

Brother communards, we need to create awareness. We must care for Peru's problems. Peru is bigger than the peasant communities in which each one of you live. There are many other peasant communities in Peru. However, there are also cities; there are also factories; there is also injustice.

In Peru, we want each of you to become aware of what Peru is. We need each of you, especially the young communards, to become revolutionaries by being more aware of our country's needs -- because only powerful communards' awareness will direct our country to the leading principle of social justice.

I have come here to join this imperial celebration of historical Cuzco. I have come here to pay tribute to the Peruvian peasant, to great Peruvian communards. In your presence, I have seen that despite the difficulties, the momentary setbacks, and important struggles, our government continues having great objectives that nothing will stop. We will continue struggling to attain those goals until we die. We will continue struggling for the needy; for the Peruvian communards; for those who are exploited, forgotten, and left aside; for those who are the legitimate, authentic, sole, and inalienable owners of our national history, which we want to develop and to do justice for. [applause]

I will meet with the various presidents of the peasant communities that have come here. I want to feel they are close; I want to meet with each one of them; I want them to take my embrace and greetings to the poorest person of their community. I want them to take my optimism and joy to all the members of each community.

Today we will meet with the presidents of the communities present here. We are going to give each of them some money, an economic resource in cash for them to conduct works in each of their communities. We consider each community as the basic cell of the history of the earth. We claim each community has as many rights as the wealthiest Peruvian. We claim a poor communard is equal to the richest person. We claim each community should have a share of the Peruvian budget. We claim we should give something to each community, whatever we can; we should give 200 or 300 million [currency not specified]. We have to give that money to each community so they can democratically use it to improve their roads, build cattle-washing places and medical posts, improve schools, pay better salaries to their teachers. Those actions are to be determined by each community. As a communard and revolutionary state, it is our duty to deliver those funds to all communities so they can determine their own destinies. [applause]

That is why today I have to come to send greetings and say to all Peruvians from Cuzco that APRA members have faith. Faith means believing; faith means asserting; faith means persevering; faith means never stooping down; faith means continuation; faith means sacrifice. I came to tell the whole country from Cuzco -- beside me brothers, the communards -- that we have faith, that I have faith, and that beside them my faith increases. I came here to say we can do anything, if we are united, with moral discipline and historical work. We will succeed in conducting a decentralizing and truly democratic revolution. I came here to say that with action and work, we will attain those great goals. I came to tell each community president that they should become messengers and apostles of work and faith. We have begun a revolution. We have started it slowly, with difficulties, without resources; with crisis -- but revolutions are not only measured in money; revolutions are measured in spirit and morale. I cannot be a government leader who delivers money to needy communards. I am a communard myself, I am needy myself. I feel as much of a peasant and as hopeful as each one of you. [applause]

The essence of a revolution is a moment of morale and equality. It is the inspiration of feeling equal, identical to each other. There are others, other governments that can give money and distribute goods. We also give money, but we do not give it as charity from Lima, because we know the true and historical Peruvian capital is located on these lands, in this Andean region, these people, under those ponchos, in this poverty. Here is the true, deep Peru. Here is the Peru that beats with life and waits, the Peru that continues to be an example of faith and patience. I came here to be nourished from that faith and patience. I came here to be nourished from that faith and patience. I came here to learn. You are teachers -- and this is not a mere phrase -- you are teachers of history, because although you were striken by misfortune, forgotten, insulted, landless, and offended, you have continued patiently defending from your communities your race, land, and faith.

Today I need your strength, patience,and destiny. Let us continue forward to attain those great objectives. When we meet this afternoon with each of the community presidents, we will not meet only to deliver checks or money. We will meet to embrace in equality so that each of you can also feel like the president of Peru, so that each of you can take the invincible message of hope and faith to the last and highest community in the region.

There is the Tahuantinsuyo flag; there is the hope and faith of our race. There is the faith of our revolutionary possibility. Here is Cuzco is the destiny of the Peruvian communities. Here in the capital of our empire, here where our Inca indians lived, here where our ancestors' mummies were burnt, here where the (?milestones) of our history were destroyed, here where Tupac Amaru was killed, here where our culture was multilated and taken away from us, here where they imposed on us injustices, here are the people again. The people triumph, they continue forward. The people do not go back.

The people never surrendered; the people never surrendered to European armor and iron. The people never forgot about the country. The people kept going on, and here is your government. The government has economic and political problems, but here is your government. It is the government of all Peruvians, and it is the government of the poorest peasants of Peru to carry out a revolution with them.

Comrades, fellow citizens: Talking to peasants is a special form of relations. Talking to large crowds in the cities' plazas, where there are no peasants, is one thing, but to talk to you, I do not need special phrases or applause. I need to talk to you wholeheartedly. I need you to understand that I feel just like you do. I need you to understand that I feel like a Peruvian peasant. I know that history and hope are in this race of mine. I know you can understand me. I know that maybe I should not talk about inflation, interest rates, monetary liquidity, and financial problems with the dollar. These are topics that are understood by politicians, technicians, and those who live on the news. For you, the big news is that Peru's government is the government of peasants. For you, the big news is that we are equal, and that this government is not the government of big landowners, of ranch owners, of the rich, of the powerful, and of those who offend others. This is the government of the poor, of the sick, of those who are understood of the youth, and of those who are in jail.

This government must first think about the poor. I know you understand me. I know that between you and the government there is a communication without words, figures, and economic analyses. This is a true, historic policy. We are all sitting in the same chair, drinking the same beverage, and dressing with the same clothes; and we are all proud of being poor, but with self-respect. We must recover the pride in our race. We must go around the country saying that we are the owners of Peru. We are all owners of Peru.

This is the government of justice, and of historic reconstruction. Let us all reorganize ourselves and our communities. I am not asking you for your votes. That would be wrong. You may think as you wish, and you may have the political ideas you wish. You may belong to another party; it does not matter. There is only one party: the party of peasant communities in Peru. There is only one party: the party of poor peasants in Peru. You may have other ideas -- it does not matter -- we are together and this is the main thing. The main thing is that we believe the revolution comes from peasant communities and from agriculture. That is why we are going to continue with our dialogue with all communities. We will not end our dialogue with all communities. We will not end our dialogues until every community has a good school, teachers, doctors and nurses, roads, machinery and tractors, fertilizers, telephones, and farming credit. This is necessary for democracy, culture, and equality in all communities.

The government has requested parliament to approve a bill, the historic bill of Peruvian communities. This bill is aimed at acknowledging all Peruvian communities, lands, and people as equal. This bill was approved. This government also created today a national institute for peasant communities. This institute will be like a ministry for peasant communities. It will not be located in Lima, because there are no peasant communities there. The institute for peasant communities, which will aid peasants and the poor, will be located here in Cuzco. Cuzco will be the headquarters of peasant vindication. [applause]

To that institute, which will be like a ministry for peasant communities, we will send economic resources so it may be distributed among all communities and so each town may receive money from the government for essential projects. The institute will guarantee that the Health Ministry will not only work for cities, but for peasant communities as well. The institute will be located here in Cuzco and will ensure that each community has jobs and fertilizers, and that they have access to banks. The institute will guarantee equality and liberty in all communities. [applause]

Therefore, as a tribute to Cuzco, we have come here to create this institute. I ask Cuzco's mayor to set aside a place for us so all peasants may go there. The institute's director will have direct contact with me, and he will report any minor problem to me. If a teacher or a doctor is not in his workplace, I will know about it. If a Transportation Ministry machine breaks down, I will know about it. [applause]

It will be an alliance with peasants and with Peru's agriculture. We will make our country attain progress. We will maintain our hopes. We may encounter many difficulties, but we are confident. We are determined and we are optimistic. We are satisfied to know we are on the right path with the poor and with those for whom Victor Raul Haya de la Torre gave his life and for whom Haya de la Torre created a party, which is currently supporting this nationalistic, democratic, and popular government.

Hail to imperial Cuzco; hail to history and to the strength of its stones; hail to the glory of our ancestors; hail to the memory of our dead; hail to the pride in our race; hail to our flag; hail to the seven colors of our empire [as heard]; hail to the peasants; hail to the poor, hail to the history that begins; hail to the great revolution we must carry out together, Apristas and non-Apristas, for Peru's destiny. [applause]

Long Live Cuzco! Long live peasant communities! Long Live the poor people of the earth! Long live APRA! Long live Peru!